MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 DECEMBER 1981

U.S.-Israeli Relations

Jerusalem radio broadcast remarks made by Prime Minister Menahem Begin during a 20 December meeting with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis in which he asserted that the U.S. suspension of the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation has canceled that agreement. In his strongly worded remarks, which he later reported to the Cabinet, Begin accused the United States of trying to make Israel a "hostage" to the cooperation agreement and of "boasting" about penalizing Israel. Asking rhetorically if Israel is a "banana republic" or a "vassal" of the United States, Begin said: "You will not daunt us with penalties." He asked Ambassador Lewis to inform the U.S. secretary of state that the Golan Heights Law will remain in effect and that "there is no force in the world that will bring about its revocation."

Elsewhere in his remarks Begin accused the U.S. administration of violating President Ronald Reagan's word that the United States would buy $200 million worth of Israeli military equipment and of thereby attempting to hit Israel in the pocket. He then went on to denounce an alleged anti-Semitic campaign waged in the United States during the administration's attempts to obtain Senate approval of the sale of AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

Begin told Lewis that while Israel does not intend to start a war in Lebanon, it will launch a "counterattack" if it is attacked by either "the terrorists or Syria." According to YEDI'OT AHARONOT, he also warned that if the Sinai multinational force and observers is not established, Israel will not complete its withdrawal from the Sinai.

According to Jerusalem radio, several ministers said after the Cabinet meeting that Begin's remarks should not be regarded as an official Israeli reaction to the U.S. sanctions. IDF radio noted the assertion by several ministers that the Cabinet must still discuss the issue and formulate an official position. In a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or stressed that the prime minister speaks on behalf of the government and does not need formal Cabinet authorization for his remarks. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir asserted that Begin's remarks expressed the Cabinet's point of view, adding that the United States has gone too far in its dealings with Israel.

The opposition Shinuy faction submitted a motion of no-confidence in the government for its handling of the dispute with the United States, Jerusalem television reported. Jerusalem radio cited Labor Party Secretary Hayim Bar-Lev as stating that the Israeli reaction has worsened the crisis in U.S.-Israeli relations.

On 18 December the radio had reported the expression of "regret and deep disappointment" by Israeli Ambassador Efrayin 'Evron at the U.S. decision to suspend the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding and his assertion that Israel's Golan Heights does not violate any UN resolution or the Camp David agreements. The next day the radio broadcast a recorded interview with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in which he questioned the "credibility" of the United States as a partner in international agreements and claimed that the U.S. reaction was "immature." In a Jerusalem television interview broadcast later that day, Sharon asserted that the suspension of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation memorandum would harm the United States as much as Israel.

Arab Comment on Golan Issue, U.S. Reaction

Syrian reaction to the UN vote in the wake of the UN Security Council resolution condemning Israel's application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights, Monte Carlo radio broadcast an 18 December interview with Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Nasir Qadduri in which he expressed Syria's satisfaction with the vote and repeatedly stressed the need to ensure that the resolution is implemented. Noting that the United States voted in favor of the resolution, Qadduri expressed the hope that Security Council unanimity will continue, forcing Israel to comply, Monte Carlo radio had earlier reported a meeting in Damascus between Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and U.S. Ambassador Robert Paganelli, noting that it was part of a series of contacts between the two governments regarding the Golan issue.

An 18 December commentary broadcast by Damascus radio termed the Un Security Council vote a "positive and encouraging beginning" and emphasized the need for appropriate measures by the Security Council to ensure Israeli compliance. A TISHRIN article, reviewed by Damascus radio, scorned Israeli Defense Minister Sharon's announcement that Israel continues to abide by the Israeli-Syrian cease-fire agreement, claiming that the Golan Heights Law not only violates that agreement but is a declaration of war against Syria. TISHRIN went on to assert that Sharon's denunciation of the U.S. vote at the UN Security Council proves that his only aim is to involve the United States in a war against Syria and the other Arabs.

Egyptian Comment -- According to Cairo radio, President Husni Mubarak told journalists on 19 December that the U.S. decision to suspend the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement is "encouraging," adding that Egypt hopes to see a reasonable solution to the problem so that differences will not escalate. MA'ARIV reported that Mubarak sent a personal message to Prime Minister Begin on 18 December asking Israel to reconsider applying Israeli law to the Golan. It noted that the message, which was "restrained," emphasized the need for joint Egyptian-Israeli efforts to expand the basis for peace.

PLO Reaction -- According to the clandestine Voice of Palestine's English service, PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat dismissed the U.S. suspension of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement as a "ploy." Analyzing the "propaganda battle" between the United States and Israel, the Voice of Palestine asserted that it does not represent a real crisis in relations, but instead may serve to spare the United States embarrassment if Israel launches a new war against Lebanon or Syria or decides not to complete its withdrawal from the Sinai.

PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar told the Voice of Palestine on 18 December that Israeli moves prove that illusions about resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict and coexisting with Israel must be abandoned, while Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf told a Monte Carlo radio correspondent that all Arab fronts, including Jordan and Syria, should be opened for Fedayeen action because fighting is the "only option."

Saudi, Jordanian Comment -- An unattributed commentary broadcast by Riyadh radio opined that the U.S. suspension of the strategic cooperation agreement with Israel is a "good sign," but WAKH cited AL-MADINAH as saying that the move will not placate the Arabs. According to Amman radio, the Jordanian paper AR-RA'Y welcomed the U.S. action. However, an editorial in the English-language JORDAN TIMES questioned why the United States plans to go ahead with military aid to Israel if Israeli moves on the Golan displease it.

Lebanon

Bombs, Security Situation -- Beirut radio reported that a booby-trapped vehicle exploded in the UNESCO area of western Beirut on 19 December, killing six persons, including five security men who had arrived on the scene following a tip-off about a suspicious vehicle. According to AFP and the Voice of Palestine, 10 people were killed by the blast. The following day, another explosion, in a car parked under the Cola bridge, killed two persons in the vehicle, Beirut radio reported. The radio also noted that an explosion on 19 December destroyed a Syrian helicopter parked at Riyaq airbase.

Rejection of Phalangist Initiative -- The Voice of Palestine reported on 19 December that the Central Political Council of the Lebanese National Movement rejected the Phalangist initiative for a solution to the Lebanese crisis. The National Movement categorically rejected plans to strike at the Palestinian-Lebanese National Movement armed presence in the south as well as any attempt to entrust security tasks to the Lebanese Army.

UNIFIL Extension -- Beirut radio broadcast comments by Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus on the UN Security Council's decision to extend UNIFIL's mandate for another 6 months. According to Butrus, some aspects of the UN resolution evade Lebanon's demands for a renewal of the UNIFIL mandate on "specific bases" that include a warning to Israel to withdraw and an increase in the size and powers of UNIFIL.

PLO

The Voice of Palestine reported that a Palestinian Revolution spokesman denied local and foreign media reports of a recent attempt on the life of PLO Executive Chairman 'Arafat. Describing such reports as fabricated propaganda and totally false, the spokesman indicated that they stemmed from a recent attack on one of 'Arafat's drivers as he was returning home.

The Voice of Palestine also reported that 'Arafat's legal adviser, Faruq Fahmi al-Husayni, died on 18 December. Citing WAFA, AFP said Al-Husayni died "after an illness."

Libya

JANA on Kidnapping, Reagan -- Noting a report by the Italian paper IL GIORNALE DI SICILIA that U.S. officials do not rule out Libyan involvement in the kidnapping of U.S. Gen James Dozier, JANA denied any Libyan involvement in the affair and said that by carrying this report, the paper had confirmed its status as a lackey of the CIA.

Another JANA commentary over the weekend focused on President Ronald Reagan's 17 December press conference, asserting that the U.S. President proved entirely incapable of providing any evidence to prove his allegation that Libya has dispatched a squad to assassinate him.

Relations With Kuwait -- JANA reported that Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and a number of top officials began talks in Tripoli with a Kuwaiti delegation on 19 December. Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah headed the Kuwaiti side.

Gulf Affairs

According to WAKH, Bahraini security forces discovered another cache of arms belonging to the recently arrested sabotage group. WAKH later reported that in an interview with the Kuwaiti paper Al Khalifah called on the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to form a rapid deployment force to protect the security of the GCC countries. He asserted that the sabotage plot uncovered in Bahrain was engineered by Iran and was intended to create disturbances in other Gulf countries as well.

According to WAKH, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia signed a security cooperation agreement during a visit to Bahrain by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. WAKH noted that in a 20 December press conference in Manama, Prince Nayif said the security agreement will "organize relations" between the Bahraini and Saudi interior ministers and security organizations. Indicating that not all the facts about the agreement can be publicized for security reasons, he also expressed hope that all the Gulf countries will sign a unified security agreement. He called on Iran to stop supporting sabotage activities in the Gulf and said that while the Iranians had said at the beginning of their revolution that they would not act as the Gulf's policeman, they have now become "the Gulf's terrorists." Regarding the Iran-Iraq war, the Saudi interior minister said Arabs "cannot remain neutral and leave Iraq alone in the arena." Arabs must support Iraq, he continued, but must at the same time work to bring about an end to the war.

Meanwhile, PARS cited an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement that charges of Iranian involvement in the Bahraini sabotage plot represent a desperate effort by the U.S. Government to revenge the defeats of the Iraqi Army and to whitewash the collapse of the Saudi Middle East peace plan.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- An 18 December Iraqi Armed Forces communique broadcast by Baghdad radio said Iraqi forces killed more than 2,144 Iranians during attacks in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions. INA later reported an Iraqi request to the International Red Cross to have the Iranian authorities remove the bodies of "thousands" of Iranian dead from the battlefields in that region. On the other hand, an Iranian Joint Staff communique, broadcast by Tehran radio on 19 December, claimed that the Iraqis had been forced to retreat from their counteroffensive in Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar, leaving behind 200 dead. Iraq's 20 December armed forces communique, carried by INA, continued to claim Iraqi victories in the area. According to PARS, the deputy commander of Iran's western Military operations announced that several Iraqi cities are "under the domination" of Iran and that Iranian forces will enter them if Iraqi aggression continues.

Musavi Denies Iraqi Charge -- PARS reported a denial by Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi that Iran and Syria were responsible for the recent explosion at the Iraqi Embassy in Lebanom.

Iran

During an interview broadcast by Tehran radio, Air Force Commander Col Mohammad Hasan Mo'inpur said that a great many people have been reinstated into the air force recently and urged those who had previously been dismissed to return to duty and collect their back pay. He indicated that many had been expelled when the air force decided to make "changes" after the flight of former President Abolhasan Bani-sadr in July, but that the plan for changes was canceled when it was decided that it was unnecessary.

In an interview broadcast by Tehran radio after the 19 December Supreme Defense Council meeting, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i reiterated Iran's denial that it has attempted to purchase F-14 spare parts from the United States either directly or indirectly. However, Khamene'i asserted that the United States is holding a large quantity of such spare parts that were ordered and paid for by the late shah and therefore belong to Iran.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PALESTINIAN REACTION TO U.S.-ISRAELI CONFLICT

'Arafat's Remarks

JN191526 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] PLO Chairman 'Arafat has attacked the current United States policy in the Middle East. He stated: U.S.-Israeli relations are the reason for all the tragedies being imposed on the Arab region.

'Arafat said he expected Zionist leaders to launch a new military adventure against the Palestinian revolution and Syria. He said: We in the Lebanese-Palestinian joint forces are prepared to confront any aggression, as we have in the past.

'Arafat then discussed the American ploy of suspending the strategic alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv. He said the foundation of U.S.-Israeli relations is firmer than such a maneuver. As Golda Meir said during the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, America is not just Israel's friend but its master.

Finally, Chairman 'Arafat saluted the Arab people's struggle in the occupied Golan Heights and the Palestinian people's stand in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in opposition to the Camp David conspiracy.

VOP Comment

JN191611 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The United States has announced an interruption in the strategic cooperation talks with Israel following the Zionist annexation move. It has also temporarily broken off talks for the supply of around $200 million of credit to the Zionists. This action does not mean much since similar measures were taken following the Israeli airraids on the Iraqi nuclear installations and the Fakahani area of Beirut last June and July and then rescinded a month later.

On that former occasion, the delivery of F-16 planes were suspended but were resumed in August. In fact, State Department spokesman Dean Fischer stated that arms deliveries to Israel would be maintained.

The United States reaction to the Golan annexation seems to oe mainly one of pique, but according to them, President Reagan was not consulted beforehand and Reagan stated yesterday that, despite the Zionist action, the U.S. was still totally dedicated to defend the Zionist entity.

Interview With VOP Head

NC191311 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1137 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Interview with the official in charge of the Voice of Palestine on U.S. suspension of strategic cooperation with Israel -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Brothers, the United States has suspended its strategic cooperation agreement with the Zionist entity. It issued a harsh statement condemning the annexation of the Golan. How serious is this U.S. stand and what are its actual aims? The official in charge of the radio answers.

[Answer] The word that the United States has suspended the strategic cooperation agreement with the Zionist entity is a very big word. It's meaning is bigger than Reagan's statement freezing discussions on the protocol of the strategic cooperation agreement which the United States and Israel agreed upon during the recent visit of Ari'el Sharon to the United States. Therefore, the word "suspension" of the strategic cooperation agreement is not an accurate word. This is a press, information and propaganda stand the United States is adopting at a specific time to serve a specific purpose.

Before coming to the specific purpose which Washington seeks from the announcement of the suspension or the freezing [of the agreement], we must review the general atmosphere in which this U.S. propagandist stand was adopted. First, there is international unanimity on rejecting the Israeli decision on the Golan plateau. The extent of this international unanimity is clear in the individual stands of most or all the world states, which have officially condemned this step. Second, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution calling on Israel to rescind its decision annexing the Golan. The Security Council's resolution was adopted unanimously.

Furthermore, Syria has called for a meeting of the Arab foreign ministers council to adopt a stand on this grave issue: the annexation of the Golan. The United States has acted quickly to contain the situation, but not because, as it said in its statement, it considers this step [the Golan annexation] as a factor obstructing the moves for the establishment of peace on the basis of [UN Security Council] Resolutions 242 and 338. If the United States was actually keen on the peace process, then it should have been aroused not by the Israeli decision to annex the Golan, but by the Israeli decision to stay in the Golan. Therefore, the main object of the issue is to contain the possible reaction to this provocative decision at the international level or precisely at the Arab level during the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers council.

To make the picture and the U.S. aim clearer to everybody, we must recall the story of the Americans and the Arabs regarding the alleged disagreements between the United States and Israel, which appeared to a certain extent during all the previous U.S. administrations. Each time Israel embarked on a very clear, haughty and provocative political action, the Americans sent feelers to find out to what extent the Arabs would tolerate this provocation. Whenever they felt the Israeli provocation would prompt the Arabs to adopt a practical attitude toward Israel and the United States, the Americans came out with the maneuver of reassessing U.S. policy vis-a-vis the Middle East or reassessing U.S.-Israeli relations. The U.S. and Western press, with its enormous resources, used to inundate our Arab region and the world with allegations, such as, the United States was in the process of exerting pressure on Israel, the United States was having sharp differences with Israel or there were possibilities that the American stand would change in the interests of the Arabs.

We naturally sensed this, if we remember, during the disengagement days in Sinai -- the second Sinai agreement and the first one as well. We have also sensed this on several other occasions, particularly the reassessment of U.S. policy. It transpired that the reassessment of U.S. policy was a mere tactic meant to deceive the Arabs and to be discussed by the press, whereas all the bases of the material and military relationship between the United States and Israel remained as they were, and even progressed during the talk about the reassessment of U.S. policy.

There is also, for example, the recent issue of the nuclear reactor bombing in Iraq. The attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor caused, approximately, the same reaction as that caused by the annexation of the Golan. The United States rose, condemned and criticized Israel and approved the Security Council's resolution. But what has actually happened? Has the United States exerted real pressure on Israel to abandon its provocations and expansion? No, it has not. On the contrary, it has signed the strategic cooperation agreement with Israel. It acted as a host to Sharon and signed a protocol with him. In a few days the Americans will announce the resumption of everything with Israel.

It is not important that we, the Palestinians for example, should know the Americans' objectives. What is important is that the Arabs know them. We have taken into account that the United States harbors only destruction toward this Arab nation and its causes. However, our Arab brothers must realize that it is very easy for Reagan to issue a statement and say: I suspend the strategic cooperation between Israel and Egypt and between Israel and the United States. It is easy for him to give more promises on balancing U.S. policy. This is very easy as long as it remains within the framework of statements, talk and words on paper.

However, there is one thing that we must understand well. The Americans want payment for these statements. They do not want only to contain the situation and to prevent reaction from proceeding in a healthy way toward an Arab decision to confront the United States and Israel. It is not only this but (?the United States) wants payment. What is this price? The price is that the Arab individual must get it into his head that there can be no solution except through the United States.

Israel annexes the Golan and the United States condemns this action. Israel adopts a provocative decision and the United States opposes it. All this is intended to convince the Arab officials and people that the United States is the basis for everything.

It is useful here to summarize the issue briefly: The pressure in the U.S. propaganda stand was caused by the international unanimity and the Arab preparations for the meeting of the Arab foreign ministers council. The aim of this stand is to contain the situation and undermine the Arab trend to seriously oppose such a decision. Even when the Arab foreign ministers council convenes, we will probably or definitely hear somebody say: Let us wait to see what the United States will do with Israel.

This is the essence of the U.S. stand. The propaganda superficialities must not be a reason for us to go far from the essence of the U.S. stand and adhere to this propaganda declaration. The real U.S. stand is what Reagan personally said, to the effect that when Israel was carrying out its aggression against the Golan, he was heading a celebration in Hollywood in support of Israel's aggression and as a blessing to this aggression. Reagan said this the day before yesterday.

The United States cannot suspend strategic cooperation with Israel. It cannot dispense with Israel. The United States is trying to deceive the Arabs. It will not touch its actual relations with Israel on the political or military levels.

[Question] To add to what you have said, I point out that an Israeli official yesterday said: We hope that the Americans are not serious about their decision to suspend their strategic cooperation agreement with us. He added: We bombed Beirut on 17 July, and we also bombed the Iraqi nuclear reactor. The Americans adopted decisions, but later they gave us the planes.

[Answer] A person speaking in this manner is not actually hoping, he is confident. The word hope is [word indistinct]. He is confident that in the long run, the Americans will not be serious about suspending the cooperation and stopping the shipments. He is confident that he knows the essence of the relationship between the United States and Israel. If the Israelis were not aware of the essence of the relationship and if they did not know to what extent the U.S. stand would go, they wouldn't have taken this step. It is wrong to assume that everything the Israelis do is because Begin is an adventurer. No, Begin calculates his steps and knows what the reaction will be and to what extent it will go.

Actually, we feel that the way the American-Israeli relationship is now being conducted is most clear. Consequently, the Arab side must abandon its illusions. Begin might not be helping the United States in its games and maneuvers. He comes and says bluntly: This is how things are. We hope this will be useful for the Arabs -- some, most or many of whom believe that it is possible to depend on the embarrassment of the United States or the so-called Arab pressure on the United States. If there was actual Arab pressure on the United States, one would have been able to say that in the long run and through the mobilization of the various Arab sources, this pressure will achieve results. However, in view of the U.S.-Israeli relationship and the benefits the Americans reap from this relationship, I believe that the Arabs cannot or have no right to pin any hopes on their relations with the United States.

[Question] In any event, let us see what will happen in the coming days. As the radio official said in our interview with him today, we say that the suspension of the cooperation is not an accurate word and that this is a press and information stand by the United States under specific conditions to serve a specific purpose.

[Answer] The specific purpose is to contain all the factors of the game and to prevent the interaction of the event so as to produce real, positive results at the Arab level. This is the specific purpose, and there is no other purpose or dimension to this U.S. stand.

VOP Analysis of Conflict

JN201748 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Dec 81

[News analysis]

[Text] The world is following with great interest the details of the exciting propaganda battle taking place between the U.S. administration and Begin's government. This propaganda battle went to the extent today that the Israeli Government adopted a decision abrogating the strategic cooperation agreement between Washington and Tel Aviv. Although Menahem Begin has surrounded his government's recent decision with a great number of viewpoints showing that the alleged difference between his government and Reagan's administration is related to the shelling of Beirut and the Iraqi reactor and the recent Golan annexing, no political observer can consider the present war of words between the two allies to be an expression of a real crisis because the Zionist entity's situation within the framework of the comprehensive U.S. strategy in the region does not allow Israel to cross over the red line and disobey its U.S. master. Moreover, an advance agreement was reached between Begin's government and Reagan's administration on the declared reasons for the difference. This was largely displayed by General Sharon when he said that the U.S. Government knows every line in Israel's policy and that he does not believe the U.S. Government was taken aback by the decision on the annexation of the Golan.

The important question to be asked with regard to this matter is: What are the immediate and far-ranging objectives of the joint Israel-U.S. game? Regarding the near objectives, political observers do not rule out the possibility of a new Zionist war in the region against the Palestinians and Lebanese and perhaps the Syrians too. By launching such a war, the moral embarrassment which may befall the Americans will be removed due to the termination of the special relationship between the two sides as embodied in the strategic cooperation agreement. The United States will then be able to tell the Arabs once again that it does not possess real cards of pressure against Israel although the tools and objectives of the Israeli aggression will be American.

The far-ranging objectives of the joint U.S.-Israel game are confined to a general and broad objective related to the U.S. peace process in the region. After what is happening now, there will be no sufficient justification for believing that Israel will withdraw from the remaining part of Sinai, particularly since it will use its decision on canceling the strategic cooperation agreement to give the United States an ample scope for maneuvering and for disavowing its pledges to make Israel withdraw in the fixed time. Definite signs have been made by Tel Aviv in this regard.

The present war of words between Washington and Tel Aviv will end up in a new formula of understanding between the two allies, but at an adequate time for the joint strategy which combines them in one working plan of distributed roles.

The Arabs must be aware of that. They should not be lost in the U.S.-Israeli game of deception, nor should they be distracted from their real tasks of military preparedness to other tasks resulting from their being misled by the U.S.-Israeli game. History has proven that the Arabs have frequently fallen into such traps and that after later learning the truth they have not acted in a reassuring manner. However, we hope that the Arabs will not be trapped again.

BAHRAIN

SABOTAGE INVESTIGATION NEARLY COMPLETED

GF181935 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 18 Dec (WAKH) -- Bahraini Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah has announced that the investigation of the sabotage group is still underway but has almost been completed.

The Bahraini interior minister said: "It is expected that the final stage of the investigation will result in new developments during the next 24 hours."

In a statement to the Bahraini newspaper AL-ADWA' that will be published tomorrow, Saturday, the Bahraini interior minister said: "The sabotage plot is more than acts of violence and the assassination of individuals." He added: "In fact, it is a broad conspiracy of grave consequences, as shown by the great number of people involved in it."

The Bahraini interior minister said that some leaders of the sabotage group were known to security officials and to the public and they had been interrogated before. However, one of the leading figures of the group entered Bahrain with a passport from one of the Gulf countries, although he is a Bahraini national, because he was known by security authorities.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah has disclosed that Bahraini security authorities are currently studying and evaluating security measures in order to put forward a new and comprehensive plan in the light of the recent developments in Bahrain.

Additional Weapons Cache Found

GF191950 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1855 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Manama, 19 Dec (WAKH) -- Bahraini security forces have discovered a new arms cache belonging to the sabotage group, which has already been arrested.

Security forces discovered the arms cache in a house in Ar-Rifa' ash-Sharqi. The arms were buried 5 feet underground. They included 32 handgrenades, 12 pistols, 4 machineguns and a quantity of explosives.

A senior security official told the Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIF, which will be issued tomorrow, 20 December, that police also found a number of complete Bahraini police uniforms, including hats, in the arms cache.

The source pointed out that the buttons on the police uniforms bear the same insignia as those on Bahraini police uniforms. However the words "made in Iran" are engraved on them.

The security source said security forces searched for the owner and arrested him early on 18 December at Bahrain airport, while he was trying to leave the country. The investigation has shown that he had not received weapons training and that he had been charged with buying a house and making an underground hiding place for storing arms.

The owner led security forces to the house and told them about the arms under the floor of the house, which was covered with a heavy layer of cement in order to avoid suspicion. Security forces broke the cement layer and removed the arms from plastic bags buried 5 feet underground.

SAUDI ARABIA

COMMENTARY URGES FURTHER U.S. CENSURE OF ISRAEL

LD202034 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Israel has strongly criticized the U.S. decision to freeze the treaty on strategic cooperation between the two countries in response to the enemy's decision to officially annex the occupied Syrian Golan Heights.

In fact, the strong criticism by the enemy's minister of war of the American decision goes beyond the rules of good manners which dictate that the weak side and the recipient of aid, should not raise his voice to the one helping him. Israel, whose leaders' practices have breached the limits of good manners, and whose behavior has violated all humanitarian values, is raising its voice in condemnation of the natural step taken by the American administration, a step which should have been taken a long time ago on the grounds that any application of pressure by the U.S. on Israel brings good returns in view of what the relationship between Tel Aviv and Washington represents. It is a relationship which constitutes the foundation of the Zionist entity and Israel is feeling fear and anxiety because of the mere condemnation by the American administration of its shameful action. Israeli reaction has demonstrated fear of the future because Israel has become accustomed to having its demands met, and to making mistakes without being punished.

From this reality, the American attitude is a good sign which could reflect on developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict during the coming stage now that all means have been exhausted and all attempts have failed because of Israeli intransigence. And despite the fact that the new American reaction was received with optimism in the Arab world, caution remains a characteristic of this optimism in expectation of the Israeli reaction to the Security Council's resolution which considered the annexation of the Golan by Israel to be null and void and which called on Israel to rescind it within 2 weeks, after which the council will meet again to debate the matter in the event Israel rejects this resolution.

From here, developments following the U.S. support for the Security Council's resolution depend on the nature of the American attitude and its continuation with the same effectiveness in the event of an Israeli rejection. This is the more important matter.

Saudi Newspaper Reaction

LD191458 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0655 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 19 Dec (SPA) -- In its editorial AL-JAZIRAH commented on the fact that the United States, which is Israel's strategic ally, stands by the international community in condemning Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights. However, the paper expressed doubts over whether the United States will stand by the Security Council if it imposes sanctions on Israel in the event that Israel refuses to abide by the Security Council resolution [passage indistinct].

AN-NADWAH said that President Reagan's decision to suspend the agreement on strategic cooperation with Israel yesterday came in the midst of circumstances and past deeds which make us believe this suspension is nothing but some kind of U.S. maneuver in view of the Arab and international denunciation of the enemy's decision to annex the Golan Heights. After the storm dies down, Washington will continue to support the enemy's aggression and usurpation. However, the paper expressed hope that the U.S. administration will understand the truth behind the Zionist attitudes following the Israeli acts of defiance which put the U.S. administration in a critical position, threatening the real interests of the United States in the Middle East [passage indistinct].

MUBARAK CALLS U.S. DECISIONS ENCOURAGING

NC191338 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak told journalists today that our attention in the coming stage will be mainly focused on the economic aspects and that all the economic experts who are now preparing a detailed study on Egypt's economy will hold an economic conference in January to draw up a sound economic policy in Egypt. This policy will then be discussed on the various party and popular levels in Egypt.

Concerning President Reagan's decision to suspend the strategic cooperation agreement between Israel and the United States, President Mubarak said that the U.S. decisions are encouraging. We hope that in light of what is happening we will reach reasonable solutions for this problem so that the differences will not escalate more than this.

President Mubarak affirmed that he has been invited to visit Romania, but he said that the date of the visit has not been fixed yet. President Mubarak also confirmed that he discussed the situation in Poland with the Romanian envoy. He said that the Romanian envoy explained Romania's view of the situation in the whole world, in Poland, and its relations with the two superpowers.

Concerning the progress of the peace talks between Egypt and Israel and whether these talks are proceeding according to the line drawn for them, President Mubarak said: Yes, we adhere to the treaty in accordance with the Camp David agreement. We are implementing our commitments and they are implementing their commitments.

Asked whether Israel is concentrating only on peace between Egypt and Israel, President Mubarak said: Undoubtedly, Egypt is considered the biggest state in the area. However, it is self-evident that the establishment of permanent peace among all the states of the area will achieve stability for all.

Concerning Egyptian-Chadian relations, President Mubarak said Egypt welcomes the restoration of relations with Chad. Concerning his messages to President Numayri, President Barre and Sultan Qabus, President Mubarak said that these messages deal with the current situation.

MUBARAK TO SEND MESSAGE TO REAGAN 21 DEC

NC181705 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Dec (MENA) -- MENA has learned that Egyptian Ambassador to the United States Dr Ashraf Ghurbal will deliver a personal message from President Husni Mubarak to U.S. President Reagan this coming Monday. The message deals with the latest Israeli measure annexing the Syrian Golan Heights. The message considers this measure to be a blatant contravention of the peace framework for the Middle East signed in September 1979 and specifies Egypt's stand on it.

KAMAL HASAN 'ALI ADDRESSES PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

NC191552 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Dec (MENA) -- [Passage indistinct] The following is the text of the statement Kamal Hasan 'Ali delivered to the People's Assembly:

Mr President of the Assembly, honorable members: At this first meeting I am having with your august assembly in its new session, I implore almighty God to grant you success in your work of serving Egypt and our great people.

I have been looking forward to this meeting in order to put before your august assembly a comprehensive picture of Egyptian foreign policy [passage indistinct].

The Israeli decision regarding the Golan which was made a few days ago and which comes after last year's decision to annex the eastern sector of Jerusalem and other Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories constitutes a new obstacle to the process for a comprehensive peace and a flagrant violation of the letter and spirit of the Camp David accords, especially the introductory portion of the peace framework, which states that the basis agreed upon for a peaceful settlement to the conflict between Israel and its neighbors is UN Security Council Resolution 242 in all its parts and that peace demands respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence within secure and recognized borders.

Everyone recalls that the primary principles clearly endorsed by Resolution 242 include the principle of withdrawal from the territories occupied in the June 1967 war and the principle of the impermissibility of seizing land through force. These are firm rules in international law which discriminate between military occupation and annexation as is clear in Articles 42 to 56 of the Fourth Hague Agreement of 1907 and Articles 47 to 78 of the 1949 Geneva Agreement and Article 4 of the 1978 protocol attached to this agreement and which emphasizes that the legal status of the region cannot be affected by occupation.

Mr President of the Assembly, honorable members, any arguments presented by Israel cannot possibly constitute an acceptable basis for justifying its decision. This decision casts much doubt on Israel's sincerity to create a suitable atmosphere for expanding the current peace process, especially now when positive aspects have begun to crystallize as a result of Egypt's moves for a comprehensive peace.

Egypt has explained from the beginning that peace cannot be achieved only by a settlement between Egypt and Israel, but through peaceful coexistence between Israel and all the peoples and states in the region. This can be achieved only through ending the Israeli occupation of the territories occupied in 1967 and the Palestinian people regaining their legitimate national rights. Perhaps the international reaction rejecting the Israeli measure and the earlier reaction to the decision to annex Arab Jerusalem will put Israel face to face with its responsibilities toward peace in the region.

The moves we embarked upon recently and immediately after the Israeli decision centered on mobilizing international forces and world public opinion to negate the effect of this decision and emphasize its illegality. On instructions from the president of the republic, I summoned the Israeli and U.S. ambassadors on the same day the Israeli Government's decision was issued. I explained to the Israeli ambassador the extent to which his government's measure would impede the process for a comprehensive peace in the region and the negative effects this measure might entail. I asked him to have the Israeli Government reconsider its decision so as to safeguard the prospects for a comprehensive peace in the region, to realize the seriousness of the measure it has taken and to rescind it. I also explained Egypt's position to the ambassador of the United States, which has special responsibilities toward peace in the region. I also explained the complications which the Israeli decision could cause in the present situation in the region.

The Foreign Ministry also informed the OAU, the chairmanship of the nonaligned group and the current president of the European Community of Egypt's rejection of the Israeli measure, which is regarded primarily as defiance of the whole international community and which must be confronted and its effects negated in order to safeguard the possibilities of peace and peaceful coexistence among the peoples of the states of the Middle East region.

The necessary instructions have also been given to our permanent UN representative to participate positively in the Security Council discussions of the Syrian complaint and to explain Egypt's stand in a manner that leaves no room for doubt.

Mr President of the Assembly, honorable members, Egypt has often explained very clearly the effect of the psychological factor on consolidating peace and coexistence among peoples. Its great initiative in 1977 basically aimed at breaking the psychological barrier, building confidence and encouraging all parties to rise above the bitterness and hatred of the past decades and to advance on the road to a comprehensive and just peace. Although a peace agreement has been reached between Egypt and Israel, Egypt has explained that peace and coexistence between Egypt and Israel cannot exist in a vacuum but that they are influenced by and affect the peoples of the region and its principal parties -- a matter that prompted Egypt, out of conviction, to insist that Israel adopt measures on which it can build feelings of confidence and encourage others to follow the path of peace and coexistence. The international community, represented in the Security Council, has given Israel the opportunity to reconsider its decision and to remove the obstacles it has raised to peace. On the basis of its belief in the inevitability of a comprehensive peace and proceeding from what has been so far achieved on the road to peace, Egypt calls on Israel to realize the extent of the danger which its decision to annex the Golan could have on the possibility of achieving a comprehensive peace. Israel must reconsider this decision and rescind it in response to the voice of world conscience.

Mr President of the Assembly, honorable members, on the basis of its move toward a lasting, comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East, Egypt believes that the process of peace is stronger than all the attempts [made to impede it] and the obstacles that confront it. Perhaps the evidence of the past 3 decades confirms this and elucidates the fate which unilateral decisions made in defiance of the international will and legitimacy always meet. Egypt shall continue to bear fully its responsibilities toward a comprehensive peace and peaceful coexistence among all the peoples in the area, despite all obstacles, believing that the peace which has been achieved through negotiations between Egypt and Israel can also be established between Israel and its neighbors in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

Earlier, the People's Assembly members, who submitted requests for information and questions, spoke during the session emphasizing that the Israeli decision to annex the Golan is a link in the Israeli chain of violations of the UN resolutions and that by this decision Israel is destroying the bridges of confidence that Egypt is trying to build between the Arabs and Israel. They also emphasized that Egypt has given Israel the opportunity to live in peace in the area, but that it appears that Israel continues to cling to its old dreams of a homeland extending from the Euphrates to the Nile. They appealed to the Arab states to adopt a unified Arab strategy for peace and to resist the Israeli designs. They also called on Israel to halt its aggressive actions against the Arab people in Palestine and Syria.

The Assembly decided to refer Kamal Hasan 'Ali's statement and the requests for information and questions to a joint committee, formed of the Foreign Relations, Arab Affairs and National Security Committees, which will meet this evening and then submit an urgent report on this subject to the Assembly.

At the beginning of the session, the Assembly approved the general committee's report on the nomination of Dr 'Atif Sidqi by the president of the republic to the post of head of the Central Accounts Department to succeed Eng Samir Hilmi, who was martyred in the military parade on 6 October.

After Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali finished delivering his statement, Sayyid Zaki, the deputy speaker and the chairman of the special committee formed by the Assembly to reply to the president's statements delivered to the People's Assembly on 14 October and 8 November, started reading the report prepared by the committee on this subject.

The committee welcomed President Mubarak's statement, which said that Egypt's stance will not change either before or after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai.

The committee requested that the emergency situation be terminated as soon as the reasons justifying its implementation are over.

With regard to the peace guarantees in the Middle East, the committee's report affirms its pride in the Egyptian negotiator who is trying to achieve self-rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The report also affirms that the Palestinian problem is the crux of the Middle East conflict.

The committee expresses its hope that the negotiations will proceed further so as to place the Palestinian people at the beginning of the road for the attainment of their legitimate rights. The committee also stresses that Egypt believes in peace based on justice and is working for it because it is a firm strategic commitment and the road to the future.

The special committee formed by the People's Assembly to reply to the statements by the president and the government affirms that the Israeli Government's decision to annex the occupied Syrian Golan Heights is a violation of the Middle East peace framework and the UN Security Council resolutions on which the Camp David agreements are based. It is also a blow against the peace efforts and will increase the factors of tension in the region. The report asks the People's Assembly to call on all the people's assemblies of the world to confront these measures, which contradict all international agreements and charters and which are a defiance of the international and [word indistinct] public opinions.

The committee's report urges quick implementation of the Egyptian-Sudanese integration in various governmental, popular and diplomatic venues.

The committee also stresses Egypt's Arab and Islamic affiliation -- which embody the principles to which Egypt has been adhering since the dawn of history.

The report says that the Egyptian people are very proud of their profound relations with the African people. Egypt forcefully supports all African causes -- foremost among which is the struggle against racist regimes and foreign interventions. Egypt also supports the African people's rights to enjoy their natural resources and develop their national economies.

The report approves the government's statement which said that Egypt's affiliation to the Nonaligned Movement is a noble one in philosophy, policy and program, because Egypt believes that, despite the pressures to which the movement is being subjected, the movement still constitutes the organizational framework by means of which Third World countries have succeeded in defending their independence and in confronting the ambitions and interests of the big powers.

In its report, the committee expresses its appreciation of the excellent relations between Egypt and the United States, for its role as a full partner in the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and its support of Egypt in all fields.

The committee supports the government in welcoming the European stand, particularly the desire by some European Community states to join the Sinai multinational peacekeeping force and the continuous wide cooperation between the European Community and Egypt.

Concerning youths, the committee calls for efforts by all departments concerned in preparing a national plan for youth development within the framework of a comprehensive plan for building society. The committee will draw up a separate report on the youth issue.

On the policy of economic liberalization, the committee stresses that the liberalization must be productive to overcome the blemishes and negative aspects hindering the application of the policy of economic liberalization.

The committee believes that the main factor for these negative aspects and flaws is the failure to make decisions regulating economic activity.

The committee calls for the protection of national production and for directing the economic and finanacial policies to serve the national economic and social aspects.

In the field of defense and national security, the committee praises the policy followed by the government in preparing the armed forces by diversifying the sources of arms and the positive role carried out by the national service body in the armed forces.

The committee affirms the importance of the police role in protecting our domestic front and securing the citizen's safety and property.

In the field of justice, the committee praises the government's keen interest in developing laws to guarantee the citizen's dignity and freedom and to prevent his exploitation.

U.S. DID NOT INFLUENCE REACTION TO GOLAN

NC192150 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Dec (MENA) -- An official spokesman has commented on a report published in the Paris-based AL-MUSTAQBAL magazine that a senior Egyptian official was to deliver a strongly worded statement regarding the decision to annex the Golan but abandoned this at the last minute on the advice of Washington. The spokesman said: Although this magazine is engaged in journalism, it failed to realize that Egypt was the first Arab or non-Arab state to declare its open stand concerning the Israeli Government's decision annexing the Golan. The Egyptian stand rejects this decision and considers it an illegal action detrimental to the peace process in the Middle East. Other statements then followed.

This and other sound and just stands by Egypt are inspired from its own will, national conscience and its original Arab personality and are not inspired from a foreign capital, wherever its location on the world map may be.

The time has come for us to think as Arabs on the basis that decisions are made by their owners and not necessarily every decision is inspired from the Eastern or a Western capital.

GHALI RETURNS FROM KHARTOUM, MAKES STATEMENT

NC201635 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that the Sudanese Government and leadership fully understand Egypt's moves to confront the dimensions of Israeli's decision to annex the Golan Heights. He added that there was full coordination between Egypt and Sudan, particularly regarding the question of the Golan. He also said that President Numayri gave him a message for President Husni Mubarak in reply to the latters' message. Following his return to Cairo from Khartoum tonight, Dr Ghali said that the discussions he held with President Numayri and the Sudanese officials were fruitful.

AR-RA'Y WELCOMES U.S. PRESSURE ON ISRAEL

JN190754 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "An Encouraging Beginning," AR-RA'Y says: The U.S. State Department yesterday issued a statement in which it suspended the strategic cooperation agreement between the United States and Israel and froze $200 million which the U.S. administration had intended to spend on the procurement of Israeli military equipment. The United States did this as a means of bringing pressure to bear on Israel to force it to go back on its decision to annex the Golan Heights.

One can say that the U.S. step is an encouraging beginning of positive U.S. practices toward the Golan issue if this step holds and if it is supported by other steps and also if the U.S. administration stands fast against the Israeli wrath, which was demonstrated immediately upon the announcement of the U.S. step. The Israeli wrath, containing an implicit threat not to withdraw from Sinai, is an upshot of the public statements on reassessing the credibility of any agreement signed with the United States including the two Camp David agreements.

Continuing, AR-RA'Y says: In another development, political circles in occupied Jerusalem are making statements insinuating that the U.S. step suspending the strategic agreement is a temporary one similar to the U.S. step regarding suspension of the delivery of F-16 planes to Israel in the wake of the Israeli attack on the Iraqi reactor and raids on Beirut.

At any rate, it is perhaps premature to judge how long the new step will continue and how long the U.S. administration's steadfastness will last vis-a-vis the Israeli uproar. It is also premature to judge if the United States is capable of continuing to put pressure on Israel until Israel gives up its decision to annex the Golan. Future events will reveal all this.

In conclusion, AR-RA'Y says: Nevertheless, in light of what has so far taken place, the U.S. step should be welcomed and encouraged. Perhaps this will be the beginning of an even-handed U.S. policy in the area toward contributing to achieving a just and all-out peace.

SENATE ISSUES STATEMENT ON GOLAN ANNEXATION

JN191532 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Amman, 19 Dec (PETRA) -- The Senate held a meeting today under its President Bahjat at-Talhuni and discussed the recent Israeli aggression against the Arab nation by annexing the Golan Heights. Following the discussions, the Senate issued the following statement:

Israel's decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights proves Israel's expansionist intentions. Jordan, which has known these expansionist intentions for a long time, has exerted efforts and has done its best to expose these wicked intentions on both the Arab and international levels.

The Israeli law on annexing the Syrian Golan Heights indicates a new stage of Israeli expansion and fulfillment of the Zionist dream of establishing a Zionist empire on Arab soil from the Nile to the Euphrates. Israel is expanding on the basis of groundless and false claims about secure borders, attaching no importance to Arab rights, international law and world peace.

By this decision, Israel has added a new danger to the Middle East situation as is evident in the increasing tension, leading the region away from any possibility for a just and comprehensive peace. It has also violated UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and has emphasized its indifference to the United Nations, the IPU and its decisions and recommendations and world public opinion.

The continuing organized violence and aggression employed by Israel against the Arab nation such as the annexation of holy Jerusalem, the forceful usurpation of Arab lands, the raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the project to dig a canal joining the Dead Sea to the Mediterranean, the establishment of settlements on Palestinian territory, terrorist acts against the Palestinian people and the annexation of the Golan Heights constitute a continuing war of aggression against the Arab nation and its legitimate rights. The world has repeatedly condemned and deplored the Israeli violence and aggression. Nevertheless, Israel continues to plunder Arab territories and wealth, to usurp the rights of the Arab people and carry out its tyranny and oppression in the occupied Arab territories against the Arab people under occupation. The Jordanian Senate strongly deplores and denounces the continuing Israeli aggression, violence and practices against the Arab rights, Israel's disregard of international law and resolutions and its contempt of human rights principles, and calls on the Arab Parliamentary Union to contact the IPU and other world parliaments and explain to them Israel's aggression so that they can take the necessary measures to annul and abrogate all those decisions and laws that contravene international legitimacy and human principles.

The Jordanian Senate calls on the great Arab leaders to work for the unification of Arab ranks and position in order to preserve our existence and protect our joint destiny while facing the continuing and avaricious Zionist Israeli onslaught.

IRAQI NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER VISITS 20 DEC

Meets King

JN201754 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has stated that Iraq is the steadfast Arab facade and the eastern vanguard of Arab action and that Iraq's just battle to regain its historical rights of sovereignty over its territory and waters is the Arab nation's battle. His majesty stated this while receiving at the Royal Hashemite Court today a delegation of the Iraqi National Assembly under Na'im Haddad, speaker of the assembly and member of the Revolution Command Council. His majesty praised the Iraqi Army and people's victories under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn and said that these victories are Arab victories over weakness and backwardness and a symbol of regaining the Arab nation's self-confidence. His majesty reiterated Jordan's stand at the side of Iraq with all the means available to it and expressed his regret over and condemnation of the stands taken by some Arab regimes at Israel's side in supporting the aggressive regime in Iran which is harming the Islamic faith through its fanaticism and practices and which works for the realization of its aggressive designs against our Arab brothers in the Gulf and the entire Arab nation.

Na'im Haddad explained the military situation and Iraq's victories at the front. He praised Jordan's honorable stand under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn and said that this stand is a cause for pride and affirmation that there are always bright spots in our nation. He said that Jordan's pan-Arab stand increases our people's confidence in realizing victory and enhances our determination to consolidate our triumph. Haddad expressed his hope that Iraq would achieve a decisive victory which would be a turning point for the Arab nation.

His majesty decorated Na'im Haddad with the Al-Kawkab medal, first class.

The meeting was attended by Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi and Minister of Court 'Amir Khammash.

Meets Premier

JN201349 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran has reiterated Jordan's support for fraternal Iraq in its just war on the Arab homeland's eastern flank. This came when he received Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad and his delegation at the Prime Ministry today.

Badran added that when His Majesty King Husayn declared Jordan's support for Iraq at the beginning of the war with Iran, he proceeded from the principle and concept of the pan-Arabism of the battle and the need to support any Arab state that is exposed to foreign aggression. The prime minister also praised the Iraqi Army's heroic deeds and pan-Arab stands during the Arab nation's wars against Israel since 1948.

Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad praised Jordan's king, government and people as well as Jordan's brave support for Iraq in its just battle. He said that this stand reflects the true nature of the Jordanian people, who have not hesitated to shoulder their responsibilities from the beginning. Such support, he added, increases Iraq's vigor and determination to achieve victory.

Meets NCC Speaker

JN201555 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Amman, 20 Dec (PETRA) -- National Consultative Council [NCC] Speaker Ahmad at-Tarawinah received Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Na-im Haddad and his delegation at the council today. Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

The NCC speaker reiterated Jordan's stand under His Majesty King Husayn in support of fraternal Iraq -- a stand dictated by the pan-Arab duty and common fate. He added that Iraq's steadfast stand under His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi people's struggle and their valiant army are defending the Arab rights, land and dignity. Iraq is not only defending itself against the Iranian war, but is also defending the Arab nation's rights, foremost of which is the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. He called on the Arab nation to unify ranks and to side with Iraq because its battle is one of the entire Arab nation. Any Arab who does not contribute to this battle with all his potential would be siding with the enemy rank, particularly since it has been confirmed that the Iranian regime is cooperating with the Zionist entity and that Israel is actually participating in the battles alongside Iran. The NCC speaker lauded the Iraqi people, leadership and army for their honorable struggle.

Na'im Haddad thanked the NCC speaker, adding that the noble Arab Jordanian people have continuously participated in all the battles of our Arab nation despite their limited capabilities. The Jordanian people were the first to defend this nation and its honor, dignity and sovereignty. This has been crowned by their brave and pan-Arab stand in an era characterized by retreat, retrogression and backwardness.

Continuing, Haddad said that the war Iraq is waging on behalf of the Arab nation is a just and pan-Arab war. He added: This war would have never broken out were it not for Iran's racist and expansionist practices and for the dreams the Persian governments have entertained throughout history. The Persian regime's objectives are crystal clear -- harming this nation and fighting Arabism. You must have heard the Iranian politicians when they said that Arabism is a racist nationalism like Zionism. They are trying to weaken our nation, the nation of great Islam. They are also trying to confirm their allegations and illusions that the Arab Gulf area is a Persian and not an Arab area.

Comments on Iranian Prisoners

JN200820 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Dec 81 pp 1, 21

[Text] In an interview with AD-DUSTUR, Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad has stated that Iraq's treatment of Iranian prisoners will continue to be humane because Iraq has principles which govern its practices and activities.

He added that a prisoner is an unarmed person and should be treated fairly. He also reiterated that Iraq will not react to Iran's mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners of war but will remain committed to the Arab nation's humane spirit.

Haddad said that there were many Iranian prisoners in Iraq and that Iran had sustained more than 10,000 dead and 30,000 wounded since 11 December. Haddad stressed that the Iranian regime is a criminal regime which is working against the Iranian people, against the region and against the Iraqi people and the Arab nation.

Haddad confirmed recent reports about the presence in Iran of Israeli military experts who had supervised recent military operations. He said: The truth has now been revealed -- the Persian and Zionist enemies are pursuing their arms cooperation. Both are historic enemies of the Arab nation. He added that Iraq is now certain that there is arms cooperation between Iran and Israel.

Haddad said that the Iranian enemy is very well aware of its strength and that of Iraq but Iran continues to prolong the war stemmed by the Zionists. He stressed that the recent military operations on the front have not been masterminded by Iran but are similar to operations carried out by the Zionists.

BUCHAREST MAYOR CONCLUDES VISIT TO AMMAN

Meets King

JN161734 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Bucharest Mayor Gheorghe Pana who conveyed to his majesty a message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The message dealt with developments in the current situation in the Middle East and its impact on the international arena. The message contained the Romanian Government's confirmation of intention to further promote the economic and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The meeting was attended by Amman Mayor 'Isam 'Ajluni and the Romanian ambassador in Amman.

Departs 19 Dec

JN191433 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Amman, 19 Dec (PETRA) -- Bucharest Mayor Gheorghe Pana left Amman today at the end of a visit of several days to Jordan, during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and other senior Jordanian officials.

In a predeparture statement to JNA, Pana said that he had discussed with the Jordanian officials bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation and ways of developing them.

KING HUSAYN CONGRATULATES BREZHNEV ON BIRTHDAY

JN171535 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Amman, 17 Dec (PETRA) -- His Majesty King Husayn sent a congratulatory cable to His Excellency Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the occasion of his birthday. He wished him continued health and happiness and the friendly Soviet people further progress and prosperity.

SHAM'UN COMMENTS ON SECURITY SITUATION, GOLAN

NC201403 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Former President [and leader of the Lebanese Front] Camille Sham'un today called for reaching an understanding with the Syrians to have them withdraw their forces from all Lebanese territory. He said that this would lead to the establishment of security in these areas through the Lebanese Army and the internal security forces.

President Sham'un was thus answering a question on the aims behind the security explosions in some Lebanese areas. He said: One is baffled when it comes to finding the reasons for the control of the deterrent forces and which are carried out by groups which are supposed to be linked with the Arab Deterrent Forces.

President Sham'un believed that the atmosphere of anarchy and terrorism prevailing [in areas] in which the Arab Deterrent Forces are present makes it easy for actions that disturb security to be committed. Such an atmosphere has recently made it easy for the enemies of the Syrian Government to carry out the explosion operation involving the Syrian helicopter in Riyaq [airfield].

Replying to another question, President Sham'un said: Israel has seized the opportunity of the U.S. and Soviet preoccupation with the events in Poland and annexed the Golan after having spent 1 year paving the way for this matter politically and through propaganda.

Asked about the fate of the Golan should the Security Council's resolution remain only ink on paper similar to the resolution on Jerusalem, despite the fact that these two resolutions reject the Israeli measures, President Sham'un said that he believes that the question of the Golan will be discussed within the framework of the United Nations and that it is out of the question for Syria to yield and enter into peace negotiations with Israel.

He questioned the stand the United States adopted when the Security Council called for sanctions against Israel should Israel reject the Council's resolution nullifying the decision to annex the Golan, bearing in mind that the United States supported the Security Council's resolution opposing the Israeli measures.

President Sham'un concluded by saying that the [Lebanese] Government in staying in office as long as its going or staying would not change the situation in the country. He said that unless reassuring international news is forthcoming, the situation in the country would remain as it is.

PRESS COMMENTS ON U.S. MEASURES AGAINST ISRAEL

NC190804 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The extension of the mandate of the UN emergency forces in the south and the reaction to Israel's aggressive decision on the Golan, mainly Washington's suspension of the implementation of the strategic cooperation with Israel, are the subject of comments by this morning's papers which deal with them on their front pages. The papers also deal with the conditions in Poland. They also refer to the continuing search for the victims of the Iraqi Embassy incident, saying that a person was rescued alive yesterday after having spent 75 hours under the debris.

AS-SAFIR describes the U.S. step suspending the strategic cooperation agreement with Israel as a surprise. It says that the U.S. stand comes in the wake of two resolutions by the UN Security Council and General Assembly considering the Israeli measure as null and void.

It adds that the stand also comes when it is almost certain that the Arab foreign ministers will hold a special meeting to adopt a unified Arab stand on the Israeli measure. Concerning the extension of the mandate of the UN emergency force in the south, AS-SAFIR says that this is the 11th extension of the force's mandate since its formation in 1978.

Under the title "The American Senarios in the Golan Plight," AL-ANWAR says: President Reagan's administration has more than one scenario. The first is the imposition of penalties on Israel, which fears the U.S. penalties more than the UN penalties. The second is the issuance of a clear U.S. statement guaranteeing the return of the Golan to Damascus in any future settlement.

AN-NAHAR describes the suspension of the strategic agreement as a trend to exert pressure on Israel saying: Washington moved yesterday in an attempt to pressure Israel into rescinding its decision. The paper considers the U.S. decision yesterday suspending the strategic cooperation agreement as the second biggest confrontation between Reagan and Begin since Israeli aircraft bombed the Iraqi atomic reactor.

AL-LIWA' says: Events took place quickly and in an unexpected manner following the Security Council's voting on a resoltuion demanding Israel to rescind its decision on the annexation of the Golan Heights. It adds: It has been decided to hold a meeting on the Arab foreign ministers on Monday; the ministers are facing a historic task. It refers to Washington's suspension of the strategic cooperation agreement saying that this decision has surprised and confused Israel.

AN-NIDA' doubts the seriousness of the United States in suspending the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement considering it a decision to decrease the world condemnation.

BUTRUS ON UNIFIL, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

NC191423 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Excerpts] President Ilyas Sarkis today met with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. They studied the UN Security Council resolution on the renewal of the UN forces mandate in the south and the possibilities of the situation concerning the Arab foreign ministers meeting which will probably be held on Monday. Later, President Sarkis met with Army Commander Gen Khuri.

In reply to a quesion after the first meeting, Minister Butrus said: [begin recording] Some aspects of the resolution issued by the Security Council regarding the UN security forces in southern Lebanon are a kind of evasion from meeting the Lebanese demands. Lebanon insisted on a renewal [of the UNIFIL mandate] on specific bases. In Lebanon's view, these bases are conditions enbabling the UN security forces to carry out their duties in the south and to implement Resolution 425. The most important of these conditions are: warning Israel to withdraw; increasing the UN forces by at least 1,000 men, and giving these forces the necessary powers to forcefully act, thereby enabling them to implement their duties on the military level; programming the implementation through an agreement between the Secretariat General and the Lebanese Government and helping the latter to regain its sovereignty and authority in the south.

[Question] After this resolution, Your Excellency, Mr Minister, what is the Lebanese Government's plan of action and how do you now see the picture in the south in light of this resolution?

[Answer] The Lebeanese Government's views regarding the south are based on more than one axis: There is the Arab line, which has been perpetuated with the Fes conference resolutions and which must be practically interpreted in the coming weeks.

Regarding this, we are in contact with the Arab League secretary general. There is also the international line: the stand which Lebanon adopted at the Security Council and insisted on despite the pressures exerted on it to amend its demands; Lebanon will continue its endeavors to get a response to its demands in the Security Council so that the Arab states will be able to help it get a response to its demands.

[Question] In another sphere, there is an emergency call for an Arab foreign ministers meeting to study Israel's decision to annex the Golan, will you participate in this meeting and when?

[Answer] Naturally, we have agreed to participate in this meeting; as you know, Lebanon is the chairman of the current Arab League council session. God willing, I personally will be at the head of the Lebanese delegation. Perhaps this will be around the middle or end of the coming week. [end recording]

BEIRUT RADIO: DETAILS UNESCO AREA EXPLOSION

NC191217 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] At 1210 today a booby-trapped car exploded in the UNESCO area; two members of a security forces patrol were martyred and another received serious wounds. Several other people were also killed or wounded. No precise official estimate of the casualties is available so far.

The explosion kindled a big fire. As a result, ambulances and fire brigade vehicles hastened to the scene and worked to remove the casualties and put out the fire.

The details of the incident are as follows: A person contacted the security forces and informed them that he was suspicious of a Volkswagen car parked in the UNESCO area. A patrol from the security forces detachment in Al-Musaytibah was sent ot the area. When it arrived near the suspicious car and as the patrol members were alighting, a pickup truck near the suspicious car exploded. Sgt 'Abd al-Hafiz Farhat and Cpl Sa'd ad-Din 'Ajinah were martyred immediately, and Cpl Sami 'Abdallah received serious wounds. Moreover, a number of civilizns were killed or wounded. They have been removed to the hospitals.

Meanwhile, a big security force hastened to the scene and first aid teams and fire brigades have been alerted. We will inform you of anything new in later news summaries.

Security Statement on Bombing

NC191530 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Dec 81

[19 December statement by the General Directorate of the Lebanese internal security forces, the general relations office]

[Text] At 1200 today the operations room at the Beirut police station received a telephone call from a known citizen. He reported that a Volkswagen car was suspiciously parked near the total station -- UNESCO. An internal security forces patrol was immediately instructed to go to the place to examine the car. At 1210, when the patrol members examined the car, a bomb placed in a pickup parked near the total station -- UNESCO -- exploded. The explosion caused the martyrdom of all the patrol members. They were Sgt 'Abd al-Hafiz Farhat, Cpl Sa'd ad-Din 'Ajinah and Cpl Sami 'Abdallah. Moreover, Policeman Zuhayr Ayyas, who was directing traffic at the UNESCO signpost, was also martyred. A number of civilians were also martyred.

A short while ago, the internal security forces directorate general announced that the number of internal security forces martyrs rose to five when Gendarme Tahir Fawwaz succumbed to the wounds he received in this horrible crime.

Soon after the incident, the internal security forces General Staff Director Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj and Beirut Police Commander Staff Brig Gen Sami Tabbarah and the government commissioner to the military court, As'ad Jirmanus, proceeded to the scene of the incident. Prime Minister and Interior Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan arrived later to inspect the scene and to learn the results of the incident and the progress of the investigations. Prime Minister al-Wazzan has decided to award the military medal to the martyrs. The investigations into the incident are continuing to reveal the background of the incident.

EXPLOSION DESTROYS SYRIAN HELICOPTER AT RIYAQ

NC191208 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] It has been learned from a security source that at 0100 today, while three Syrian helicopters were parked in the Riyaq airbase, an explosion occurred in one of them, completely destroying it. The other two helicopters were not damaged. Investigations are now taking place to find out the cause of the explosion.

VOL. ISRAEL CONDUCTING MANEUVERS IN S. LEBANON

NC200712 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] It has been reported from the south that the border area residents often wake up to the sound of explosions and see columns of smoke rising in the Al-'Urqub area. Later it became clear that Israeli maneuvers with live ammunition were taking place in some areas, particularly in Al-Khiyam vaillage.

VOL DETAILS 15 DEC IRAQI EMBASSY EXPLOSION

NC181612 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Today, workers continued to remove the rubble at the Iraqi Embassy. Attempts are currently made to rescue one of the Iraqi diplomats, 'Aziz Rashid, who is still alive and in a state of exhaustion. It is reported that a big column, weighing many tons, fell on his foot. An Iraqi investigatory team is also expected to arrive in Beirut to take part in investigating the events that led to the explosion which killed and injured many people.

It has been learned that secret investigations have revealed, what was termed as significant facts. These point to parties that backed the perpetrators. It is also reported that the divulgence of these facts will lead to major repercussions in all circles -- according to the investigators. It has also been learned that four sanitation workers placed the explosives in sanitation bags and planted them in the embassy building. The bombs were timed to explode early in the morning. For reasons unknown, they failed to go off at the specified time, and therefore the culprits sent a car equipped with a detonating device ramming into the sentries' gate -- as was noted earlier. The car exploded -- detonating also the explosives placed earlier. The reports say that the driver of the car belongs to a local organization and has links with the intelligence services of a certain country.

JORDAN'S EMBASSY TO HANDLE IRAQ'S INTERESTS

JN181820 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] The Jordanian Embassy in Beirut has been entrusted with the Iraqi interests in Lebanon following the explosion that destroyed the Iraqi Embassy building last Tuesday.

REACTION TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

High-Ranking Source Comments

JN181734 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Our Damascus correspondent Louis Faris reports:

[Begin recording] Replying to a question by our radio, a high-ranking Syrian source has expressed Syria's satisfaction with the UN Security Council resolution, especially since it was passed by a unanimous vote. The source expressed the belief that the Security Council will continue its efforts and measures to carry out its resolution and that is will force Israel to respect international law and the UN Charter and resolutions.

The source said that the U.S. position on the Israeli measure was made very clear when it voted for the resolution. The source intimated that responsibility for implementing the revolution rests with the countries which voted for it in the Security Council, in other words, all countries.

Regarding the urgent meeting of the Arab League council at the foreign ministers level, the Syrian source denies reports that the meeting will be held Monday in Damascus. He said: The venue and date of this meeting are still being discussed through contacts with the Arab countries. He said the purpose of this meeting is to achieve Arab unanimity in confronting and putting an end to the Israeli aggression. [end recording]

Nasir Qaddur's Remarks

JN181913 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Dec 81

[From "It Happened Tomorrow" program]

[Text] Syria is the one directly and primarily affected by the Israeli decision to annex the Golan. What is the Syrian position now following the UN Security Council resolution? This is what our Damascus correspondent Louis Faris will tell us after meeting with Nasir Qaddur, Syrian deputy foreign minister.

[Begin recording] [Question] Nasir Qaddur, last Monday, Israel adopted its sudden decision to annex the Golan. You are now coordinating your steps and measures. What important steps have you taken, and where does Syria now stand vis-a-vis the Israeli decision?

[Answer] Actually, we have known all along that Israel has great zest for swallowing up occupied Arab territory and that there are no limits to its expansionist ambitions. Therefore, its decision to apply Israeli law to the occupied Syrian territory on the Golan was no surprise to us. Israel wants to occupy more and more Arab territory after every aggression against the Arab nation.

As a first step in confronting this grave Israeli step, we called an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council. As you know, consultations were held to convene the emergency session to discuss this grave Israeli measure. We submitted a draft resolution to the Security Council providing for considering the Israeli measure as null and void, for the Israeli Government to cancel this decision immediately and for the UN secretary general to submit a report to the Security Council affirming that Israel had cancelled the decision. If it did not, the Security Council would naturally meet again after 5 January to discuss the necessary measures which must be taken to force Israel to honor the UN Charter, international law and the Security Council resolution regarding the Israeli measure as null and void.

With regard to the other activities we carried out to face this grave Israeli measure, we contacted all the ambassadors accredited in Damascus and acquainted them with the gravity of this measure. We also asked their governments to do all they can to prevent Israel from committing such flagrant violations of the UN Charter and international law.

Furthermore, we addressed messages to the foreign minister of Cuba, in his capacity as current chairman of the nonaligned conference; the secretary general of the OAU; and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization.

We then called an urgent meeting of the Arab League Council at the foreign ministers level in accordance with Article VI of the Arab League Charter, which provides that an Arab country facing any aggression must call an Arab League meeting to discuss how to stop this aggression. Consultations are now under way between the Arab League secretary general and the other fraternal Arab states to determine the venue and date of this meeting.

[Question] The UN Security Council resolution was issued today. How do you assess this resolution in light of the results of the voting and what are your next steps?

[Answer] We are of course pleased that the Security Council passed a unanimous resolution considering the Israel measure in the occupied Syrian territory on the Golan as null and void. This shows that the international community cannot accept the policy of aggression and expansion and the threats to peace and security in this sensitive part of the world. As for the steps which will follow this resolution, I believe that the international community represented by the Security Council, which adopted the resolution, must continue its steps to carry out the resolution. As you know, Israel has always refused to carry out UN resolutions. Israel has not implemented any of the 500 resolutions issued by the United Nations since 1948. The issuance of the Security Council resolution by a unanimous vote and with such clarity gives hope that the international community will abide by this resolution and will do all it can to force Israel to respect international law and the UN charter and resolutions. It all depends on the steps which will be taken to force Israel to comply. After 5 January, the Security Council will hold another session to consider the measures that will guarantee that Israel respects the wishes of the international community and carries out the resolution.

[Question] You have held contacts with many countries, including the United States. Today, in particular, you met with the U.S. ambassador. How do you assess these contacts and the U.S. stand? What do you expect of the United States?

[Answer] It is only natural that we should contact the United States, to which we are linked by diplomatic relations and which, as a permanent member of the Security Council, thus assumes a greater share of the responsibility for maintaining world peace and security. We also contacted all other countries of the world. The U.S. position on the recent Israeli measure was made very clear when it voted for the Security Council resolution. As I said, the resolution was adopted unanimously. Naturally, the United States was one of the countries that voted for the resolution, which does not recognize this Israeli measure and calls upon Israel to cancel it. By voting for the resolution, the United States showed that it does not recognize this measure. We hope that the unanimity at the Security Council will continue in the future so as to force Israel to respect the UN Charter and international law and to serve the issues of peace and security in the whole world.

[Question] As you have just said, Israel will most likely or probably reject this resolution. Therefore, you would resort to the Security Council once again to apply sanctions. Does Syria insist on sanctions, even if this provision is vetoed by the United States?

[Answer] Responsibility for implementing the Security Council resolution rests with the countries which voted for it. A country which adopts a decision is committed to implementing it. What concerns us in Syria is that the Israeli measure must be cancelled. How Israel is forced to respect the UN Charter, human rights and international pacts is the responsibility of the countries which unanimously passed the resolution yesterday.

U.S. Anti-Israel Measures

JN181610 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this afternoon received the U.S. ambassador in Damascus. According to information made available to our Damascus correspondent Louis Faris, the U.S. ambassador has told Khaddam that Washington intends to embark soon on adopting several important measures to force Israel to submit to the UN Security Council resolution adopted early today. This resolution considers Israel's decision to annex the Golan as null and void.

Resolution Followup Needed

JN191302 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The Damascus radio political commentator says that the period set by the UN Security Council resolution for Israel to give in to the international community's will and to the UN Charter requires the development of the world's stand in the international arena because Israel, which finds itself alone in the world dock, will resort to procrastination and evasion to get out of its delicate dilemma. Terrorist Begin, who embodies Zionist illusions, may find in the exacerbation of the situation the shortest way of defying internationalwill and exporting his dilemma to the world.

International responsibility does not stop short of condemnation because the dangers that will result from Israel's intransigence will harm international peace and security.

Syria, which has warned the world more than once of the threats the Israeli policy of expansion poses to the region and to the world, believes that it is necessary to pursue effective pressure to defuse the explosive situation which the Israeli measures of aggression have caused in order for the world to avoid dangers whose consequences cannot be predicted.

Radio Commentary

JN181515 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] At the UN Security Council yesterday, the international community unanimously decided to condemn the new Israeli aggression against the occupied Syrian heights and to consider the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights as null and void. The Security Council allowed Israel until 5 January rescind its decision or face sanctions as stipulated in the UN Charter.

The adoption of the Syrian draft resolution by the Security Council is indeed a positive and encouraging beginning of an important and serious action which must be completed so that its end might be equivalant to its beginning. Yesterday's resolution is tantamount to a new international confirmation of the Arab rights over the Golan territory and a new international declaration which unequivocally rejects the Zionist occupation of this precious Arab territory of Syrian land. This has been the stand taken by the international community against the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights. As for Israel's stand vis-a-vis the international community and its resolutions, we say that its stands are well known and have always been indifferent. Israel has always disregarded such resolutions.

It is now clearly understood that ever since the first international resolution on the Palestinian issue, such resolutions have required executive authority and practical international measures for their imposition and realization. In the absence of such authority and international measures, Israel, without any sense of responsibility, continued its provocative and challenging policy toward all the resolutions issued by international organizations.

Today, as we have the international resolution on the Golan that regards the annexation as null and void and grants Israel a 2-week limit to act, we find ourselves witnessing a new transformation in relations between the United Nations and Israel. There is not a single state in the world that supports the annexation decision; there is not a single state that has not deplored the decision. In these international circumstances, the UN Security Council resolution firmly stands in Israel's face and forces Israel to stand alone in its arrogance in the region and to swallow this arrogance. In order to preserve this situation, the current international position must be preserved -- a position whereby all states and peoples are convinced that the Israeli annexation decision is a flagrant expression of an aggressive and expansionist nature which has characterized the Zionist entity since its establishment.

The annexation decision has not only revealed to the whole world this Zionist expansionist nature, but has also affirmed a number of facts, the most prominent of which are:

First, this country's protracted steadfastness and its confrontation of the expansionist Zionist project, which was hidden for sometime behind the Camp David agreements, have exposed the aggressive Israeli position in a decided manner and stripped away all its pretexts concerning peace.

Second, through its annexation decision, Israel wanted to achieve a large chronological gap before the achievement of a strategic balance between it and Syria or to create for itself a new chronological gap to prevent Syria from reaching this balance. However, Syria has always said that through more work, sacrifice and patience, it would reach this balance and realize the aims of our nation in liberation and in achieving the rights of the Palestinian people.

Today a third prominent fact arises. The ultimatum and declaration issued by the UN Security Council to Israel grants our stand in the world a new dimension which is necessary not only for the Golan problem but for the entire cause of liberation. To transform this dimension into an effective power that would force Israel to comply with the international will, the Security Council must take the appropriate measures at the appropriate time against Israel's aggressive action in the Golan and prevent it from circumventing the resolution or escaping its implementation. The Security Council is capable of doing this. We in Syria are also capable, and we will not be lenient whatever the costs or sacrifice.

TISHRIN ON SHARON'S THREATS, BLACKMAIL OF U.S.

JN201055 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Text] TISHRIN says: In a sudden move, and without consulting even his ministers, Begin convened the Knesset and made it approve the law to annex the occupied Golan Heights. Then, amid worldwide denunciation of this move and ridicule of Israel's professed democracy, Begin's defense minister, Ari'el Sharon, rushed to the Golan to inspect the big military reinforcements there and to issue hostile and provocative statements, such as the statement that the Zionist state [ad-dawlah as-sahyuniyah] is proceeding with its expansionist plans and will respond to any Syrian counteracton with all-out war. Sharon also recalled his chief of staff, General Eytan, from Egypt to supervise the muscle-flexing Israeli operation.

Israeli and foreign military correspondents who accompanied Sharon to the occupied Golan Heights played up the Israeli reinforcements, reporting every detail about the deployment of tanks and artillery everywhere, in an attempt to intimidate Syria. The UN Security Council had barely adopted its unanimous resolution with the support of all members, including the United States, considering the Israeli measure as null and void and giving the Zionist state [ad-dawlah as-sahyuniyah] under 5 January to cancel its law, when Ari'el Sharon made new statements confirming Israel's abidance by the cease-fire agreement on the Golan. However, Sharon noted that the U.S. stand constituted a violation of the memorandum of strategic cooperation and other agreements signed by the two countries.

TISHRIN continues: While we in Syria do not underrate Sharon's military strength and the supplies he is receiving regularly from the United States, his provocative statements, threats and muscle-flexing will not prevent us from pursuing the pan-Arab liberation line and continuing the struggle to not only liberate the occupied Golan Heights and to regain our precious Syrian territory, but above all to liberate all the occupied Arab territories, to guarantee the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people and to confront and foil the plans of the Zionist onslaught regardless of the sacrifices and hardships.

Perhaps, we should remind Sharon that others drowned in their miscalculations and that his predecessor, Moshe Dayan, who in the early hours of the October War told foreign news correspondents that he would drink champagne with them at the Samiramis Hotel in Damascus, collapsed on the Golan before the determination of the Syrian leadership, the density of the Syrian fire and the gallantry of the Syrian fighters. According to Israeli journalists, Dayan had almost ordered his forces to confine themselves to defending the 1948 border of occupied Palestine.

TISHRIN adds: We do not want to remind Sharon of Israel's impending collapse in October 1973, but we would like to point out that hostile threats never scared Syria in the past and will not scare it today or tomorrow. Such threats will not hinder Syria's earnest efforts to regain its territory and other Arab territories and to secure the Palestinian people's right to their homeland. Of course, Sharon will not be the one to determine how or when Syria will reply.

It is indeed astonishing that Sharon, who threatened all-out war against Syria in the wake of the Knesset decision, announced yesterday that he abides by the cease-fire agreement. Yet the world is unanimous that the Begin-Sharon decision -- for we will not say the Knesset decision -- is not only a violation of the cease-fire agreement, but also a declaration of war against Syria contrary to all international laws and the UN Security Council resolutions, especially Resolutions 242 and 338, and also undermines peace efforts in the region.

As for Sharon's denunciation of the U.S. stand in the UN Security Council -- a stand which can be described as an attempt by the United States to disassociate itself from the Israeli decision to annex the Golan, and, possibly, a prelude to real practical action to make Israel respect international law -- this calls for deep pondering. By such denunciation, Sharon, who is said to be the real ruler in Israel, confirms that his sole concern is to involve the United States in a direct war against Syria and the other Arabs without any justification other than the Zionist desire for expansion.

Perhaps, Sharon's great interest in signing the memorandum of strategic cooperation with the United States stems from the desire to further embroil the United States by directly involving it in an actual war against the Arab nation. Sharon is not satisfied with the military, financial and political support he is getting from the United States. He wants American soldiers to stand in Israeli trenches against Arab, especially Syrian, soldiers.

Israel recently fabricated the story of the Syrian missiles in Al-Biqa'. Now it is fabricating new excuses to expedite a war against Syria before this steadfast country has achieved the strategic balance which will enable it to deter the aggressors. Israel claims it has annexed the Golan for security reasons. Next time, and if Zionist blackmail of the United States persists, the state [dawlat] of aggression and usurpation will annex the West Bank and Gaza on the pretext that the Camp David accords do not oppose the principle of annexation.

TISHRIN concludes: Israel's attempt to blackmail the United States and to involve it in more hostility against the Arab nation is a policy known to everyone. But Israel's attempt, through Sharon, to intimidate Syria and divert it from its destined and honorable mission of confronting the Zionist onslaught and foiling its plans, is undoubtedly a short-sighted ambition. If we were to weigh the threats which were made by Dayan and other Zionists before the October war with the threats now being made by Sharon, the Dayan threats would definitely tip the balance. Yet, Dayan is dead now as a result of the big collapse in the October War, especially on the Golan front.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT CANCELS STRATEGIC MEMORANDUM

TA201203 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1153 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] The Cabinet meeting at the prime minister's residence was held against the background of sharp U.S. measures against the annexation of the Golan. Is there a counter reaction to this?

[Political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer] Yes. There is a very sharp reaction. I think that such a reaction has not been heard in the history of the state of Israel before. Israel is canceling the memorandum of understanding signed with the United States. The prime minister reported to the Cabinet ministers the remarks he had made to the U.S. ambassador and which he asked him to transmit to the U.S. administration. These are long remarks and we will now hear them from Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or:

[Na'or -- live] Over the last 6 months the U.S. Government has punished Israel 3 times. On 7 June we destroyed the Osirak nuclear reactor near Baghdad and I dont want to tell you today from whom we got the final intelligence information that this reactor was going to produce atomic bombs. We had no doubt about this. Therefore our action was an act of rescue [hatzala], an act of national and self-defense in the most sublime sense of the word. We saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of civilians including thousands of children. Despite this you announced that you were punishing us and violated a signed and written agreement which contained dates of delivery of planes. Not too long after, out of self-defense, after slaughter had been carried among our people -- three were killed including an Auschwitz survivor and 29 were wounded -- we bombed the command of the PLO in Beirut. You are not morally entitled to preach to us regarding casualties among civilians. We read the history of World War II and we know what happened to civilians when you acted against the enemy. We also read the history of the Vietnam War and your term -- body count. We always make an effort not to hit the civilian population but sometimes it cannot be avoided, as happened during the bombing of the PLO command. Despite this you punished us and suspended the delivery of F-15's.

A week ago, on the Cabinet's proposal, with a two-thirds majority in all three readings, the Knesset adopted the Golan Heights Law. Now you are again boasting that you are penalizing Israel. What sort of a talk is this -- penalizing Israel? Are we a state or vassals of yours? Are we a banana republic? Are we 14-year-old boys whom, when misbehaving get their fingers slapped?

I will tell you the composition of this government -- the government is made up of people whose lives were spent in resistance, fighting and suffering. You will not daunt us with penalties. The one who threatens us will find us deaf. We are prepared to hear reasons only. You have no right to penalize Israel and I protest the use of this term.

You announced that you are suspending the debate on the memorandum of understanding on the strategic cooperation, and that your return to the debate, in talks already scheduled, will demend on progress in the autonomy talks and the situation in Lebanon. You have been trying to turn Israel into a hostage for the memorandum of understanding. I regard your announcement on the suspension of talks on the memorandum of understanding as its cancellation. No Democles sword will hang over our heads.

We are noting the fact that you have canceled [bitaltem] the memorandum of understanding. The people of Israel lived without the memorandum of understanding with the United States for 3,700 years, and will continue to live without it for another 3,700 years. As far as we are concerned, this is the cancellation of the memorandum. We will not agree to your demand that we allow the Arabs of Jerusalem to participate in the elections to the autonomy institute and threat that if we do not agree to this you will suspend the memorandum.

You placed on us financial punishments and violated the President's word. When Secretary of State Haig was here, he read from a paper President Reagan's remarks that you will purchase arms and other items for $200 million. This is a violation of the President's word. Is this acceptable and proper [mequbal vena'e]? You called off another $100 million. What did you want to do: to hit our purse?

In 1946, a British general called Barker lived in this house; today I reside here. When we fought against him, you called us terrorists and yet we continued to fight. After we attacked his headquarters in the boycotted King David [Hotel] building, Barker said: This race will only be persuaded when we hit its purse, and instructed his British troops not to frequent Jewish coffeeshops any more.

To hit our purse? This was Barker's philosphy. Now I understand why all this effort in Senate to obtain a majority for the arms deal with Saudi Arabia was accompanied by an ugly anti-Semitic campaign. First the slogan Begin or Reagan was voiced, so that then the deduction was that anyone who opposed the deal with Saudi Arabia was supporting a foreign prime minister and was not loyal to the President of the United States. Thus, Senators such as Jackson, Kennedy and Packwood -- and, of course, Senator Boschwitz -- are not loyal citizens.

Then we heard the slogan: We will not allow the Jews to determine U.S. foreign policy. What does this slogan mean? The Greek minority in the United States determined the Senate resolution that prevented the supply of arms for Turkey after it invaded Cyprus. No one will frighten the large, free U.S.-Jewish community. No one will succeed in deterring them through anti-Semitic propaganda. It will side with us. This is their fatherland, and they have the right and the duty to support it.

Some say one should rescind the law passed by the Knesset. To rescind is a term dating back to the days of the Spanish inquisition. Our forefathers went to the gallows, but did not rescind their belief. We do not need to go the gallows; we have, thank God, sufficient power to defend our independence and our rights. If this depended on me, I would say that the law should not be rescinded. However, in my opinion, there is not even one person in the whole world who would be able to move the Knesset to rescind the law, passed by a two-thirds majority.

Mr Weinberger, and then also Mr Haig, said that the passing of the law harms [UN Security Council Resolution] 242. Anyone who says so either did not read the resolution, forgot it, or did not understand it. The spirit of the resolution is negotiations for the determination of secure, recognized borders. Syria announced that it would not conduct negotiations with us, that it does not recognize us nor will it recognize us. In so doing it took away the spirit from 242. How, then, could it be us who harmed 242?

Regarding the future, kindly inform the secretary of state that the Golan Heights Law will remain in effect. There is no force in the world that will bring about its revocation.

As for the charge that we took you by surprise, the truth is that we did not wish to embarrass you. We were aware of your difficulty. You are going to Riyadh and Damascus, and it is President Reagan who said that Mr Begin was right in saying that if Israel had approached the United States on the law in advance, the United States would have said no. We did not want you to say no and then have us apply the law [mishpat] to the Golan Heights. Our intention was to not embarrass you.

As for Lebanon, I asked that the secretary of state be told that we will not initiate a war, but that if we are attacked by either the terrorists or the Syrians we will launch a counterattack.

As the Cabinet was in session, the following message from the U.S. President to Prime Minister Begin arrived: Nancy and I wish you and Mrs Begin a Hanukkah holiday full of joy and happiness. The light of the Hanukkah candles symbolizes the continuity of the Jewish people and its tradition, its determination to be free and its eternal quest for peace. The United States will always share Israel's efforts to guarantee the blessing of peace onto all the people of the Middle East. We hope that those days will bring you full recovery from your injury.

That is all, and thank you very much.

BEGIN'S MEETING WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR LEWIS

TA202209 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Menahem Begin today informed the U.S. ambassador to Israel that he regards the U.S. announcement about the suspension of the debate on the memorandum of understanding as canceling [bitul] the memorandum. We were not the ones who canceled the memorandum of understanding, you were the ones who canceled it -- the prime minister told Ambassador Lewis. At the Cabinet session held after the prime minister's meeting with Ambassador Lewis, the prime minister briefed the ministers about the contents of the talk with the U.S. ambassador and the Cabinet endorsed [qibla] Mr Begin's position. Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports on today's political activity at the prime minister's residence.

[Begin videotape] The time is 0930. The defense minister, the U.S. ambassador to Israel and the foreign minister arrive one after the other at the prime minister's residence. Mr Lewis was summoned to the prime minister this morning to listen to Israel's reaction to the sanctions called by the United States in the wake of the passage of the Golan Heights Law in the Knesset. Later on it would emerge that Israel's reaction, as formulated by Mr Begin, is unprecedentedly sharp. It was also reported that the ambassador remained silent throughout almost the whole meeting and absorbed the prime minister's raging comments.

At 1030 the U.S. ambassador concluded his talk with the prime minister. IDF generals and commanders of the various IDF branches led by the chief of staff arrive at the prime minister's residence. They were supposed to brief the Cabinet about the IDF's deployment in the north, should the quiet be disrupted there. The Cabinet ministers, who expected to discuss the appropriate reaction to the measures adopted by the United States, heard a repeat of the words the prime minister uttered to Lewis. The prime minister reminded the ambassador about the U.S. reaction when it punished Israel after the destruction of the reactor in Baghdad and the bombing of the terrorist headquarters in Beirut -- which had been acts of self-defense -- and then went into the affair of the Golan Heights Law.

The prime minister said that the economic sanctions the United States imposed on Israel are a breach of the president's promise. The prime minister outrightly rejected the demand that Israel should renege on the Golan Heights Law and ascertained that Israel would not initiate a war. However, should we be attacked by the terrorists or the Syrians we shall launch a counterattack. There were several Cabinet ministers who today felt that they had again been presented with a fait accompli and who told journalists that they were not ready to react after the fact.

As for the future, it is said in Jerusalem that the U.S. position may become clearer within 2 weeks after the UN Security Council has voted on the proposal demanding that sanctions be imposed on Israel. [end videotape]

SHAMIR: BEGIN EXPRESSES CABINET'S 'POINT OF VIEW'

TA202147 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that Israel does not want to be subject to pressures. In a special interview, Minister Shamir says that Israel is willing to converse, persuade and be persuaded but it is not ready to be dealt the kind of slaps the United States has been dealing it. Our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram, interviewed Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

[Begin videotape] [Ram] Mr Foreign Minister, should the words uttered by the prime minister to Ambassador Lewis be regarded as a Cabinet decision?

[Shamir] The prime minister expressed the Cabinet's point of view [hashqafa].

[Question] Was a debate held on the prime minister's remarks to Ambassador Lewis?

[Answer] The prime minister briefed the Cabinet on the contents of his talk with Ambassador Lewis and a debate was held.

[Question] Did the Cabinet endorse these remarks as well as the prime minister's conclusions regarding, for example, the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation?

[Answer] Remarks against the content of the prime minister's remark were not voiced in the debate.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, how do you regard the way in which the government operates, namely, that the prime minister actually presents the government with faits accomplis?

[Answer] This is not a fait accompli. In fact, the prime minister could have known -- and he knows -- the Cabinet's point of view and its mood and was fully entitled and authorized to say what he did. I think that by means of his words he expressed not only the Cabinet's opinion but almost the opinion of the vast majority of the Israeli people.

[Question] Mr Shamir, in your capacity as foreign minister, do you not feel that we have gone too far with our reaction?

[Answer] I do not think we have gone too far. Somebody else has gone too far. This way of punishing Israel to such an extent, is harmful and humiliating and an end should be put to it.

[Question] Were reactions, actions and sanctions on the part of the United States taken into account in the wake of such a sharp announcement?

[Answer] If you are asking whether they were taken into account today -- I do not think that today we have to think about a reaction to a reaction. At the time, when the Golan Heights Law was passed, U.S. reactions -- even sharp ones -- were taken into account. However, when these reactions came, I must point out, we did not expect them to come in such a way. We knew reactions would come, even sharp ones, but we did not know they would be connected to the memorandum of understanding which has no relation whatsoever to this issue. Therefore, today we must firmly and vehemently insist on our position, our right and our dignity.

[Question] Actually, who canceled the memorandum of understanding: Israel or the United States?

[Answer] I think it was the United States by suspending the existence and implementation of the memorandum of understanding even before implementation started. That, in fact, canceled it.

[Question] Israel regarded the memorandum of understanding -- the government regarded the memorandum of understanding -- as a first-rate political achievement.

[Answer] It certainly was a political achievement. It was an achievement on the way to strengthening relations between Israel and the United States and a contribution to Israel's security.

[Question] What has happened to this achievement [as heard]?

[Answer] However, nobody could have conceived that this memorandum would serve anyone as a tool for exerting pressure on Israel in the negotiations on the terms for peace or in the ways for safeguarding its security -- nobody could have conceived that [as heard]. Such a memorandum of understanding we do not need. [end videotape]

INTERVIEW WITH DEFENSE MINISTER SHARON

TA190859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon interviewed by Israeli radio political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on the "Weekly Newsreel" -- recorded]

[Text] [Schiffer] Defense minister Ari'el Sharon has been very busy in the past few days. His name has been linked to every one of the developments that has stemmed from the application of Israeli law on the Golan Heights. To this we may add matters related to his ministry: The announcement about the changes in the structure of the defense establishment, and the Arye Ganger affair, which was concluded at the end of the week. This is Shim'on Schiffer.

[Sharon] There was no place at all for the United States to be surprised. The only place for surprise had to do with the timing. The subject appears in the government's guidelines, and it is totally clear that the United States, which is aware of every document and every word written in Israel, read those guidelines very thoroughly.

[Schiffer] Israel, the defense minister says, need not consult with the United States on matters that have to do with, as he puts it, the circle of confrontation between Israel and the Arab states. The strategic cooperation refers only to a threat from the Soviet Union or forces from outside our region that will operate on its behalf. In the meantime, the administration has decided to react in practical terms against Israel. Alexander Haig has stated that the implementation of the memorandum of understanding will be suspended. The United States will also suspend the implementation of several agreements concluded recently. Thus, it will not be possible to go ahead with sales to the United States of products worth $200 million from the Israeli military industries. U.S. permits will not be given to sell Israeli products containing U.S. components to various countries, nor will it be possible in the near future to change part of the U.S. aid from dollars into shekels. Ari'el Sharon condemns these steps sharply.

[Sharon] In my view, these steps must cause us serious doubts and reflections regarding the credibility of the United States within the framework of international agreements, including possibilities of its future behavior in connection with the Camp David agreement. In my view, there is something even more serious than that: This is a new attempt to harm the heart of Israel's national security by suspending activities relating to security.

[Schiffer] There were those who accused Ari'el Sharon this week of looking for a small war in the north. His critics contended that he was always sought to deliver a blow against the Syrians. The Golan Law, they said, provided an opportunity.

[Sharon] We have made it clear that the state of readiness [konenut] we adopted on the Golan Heights and on the northern border is a defensive readiness. We made this clear to the United States, we made it clear to the public. It is the responsibility of the government to ascertain that all security measures are taken. In this step that we took we had absolutely no aim -- not the smallest one -- of entering into a military confrontation with the Syrians. We are interested in the continuation of the cease-fire for as long a period as possible. I have repeatedly made this clear. As for the claim that I was looking for a chance to engage the Syrians or to get into a war with them -- for years, even before As-Sadat's visit to Israel, I always said that first of all we should try to prevent war in every sector and in every arena, and this we are trying to do. But even if war is forced on Israel, the last place where anything can be achieved -- and not because of Syria's military capability; Israel has absolute superiority over Syria -- the last place where anything can be achieved which is also political in nature, is Syria. Therefore for years it was I who argued that we must not get involved in a war with the Syrians, and this is also the government's policy. If the Syrians force a war on us, we shall fight them fiercely, and the Syrians will be whipped in that war -- but we have no interest in such a war. This is also one of the reasons we are showing so much restraint and so much patience in view of the Syrians' takeover and occupation in Lebanon, in view of the missiles that have not yet been removed from there. All this is connected to the basic viewpoint that we must refrain as far as we are able from getting into a war in the Syrian sector.

[Schiffer] In the meantime all the sides have worked to calm things down on the Golan border. Egypt has reacted with restraint to Israel's move. President Mubarak stated that his country would not join Syria if it declared war on Israel. But political observers assessed that the Egyptians are showing restraint because they are waiting to get back the territories Israel still holds -- but after that Egypt will affiliate itself with every international initiative against us. Ari'el Sharon says that the Egyptians were not surprised.

[Sharon] We made it clear to the Egyptians -- and in my talks with the Egyptians I speak frankly and explicitly to them, as I hope my colleagues also do -- I made it clear to them many times that we will never leave the Golan Heights because of its security importance to Israel. I have also made it clear to them that we will continue to be responsible for security in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district, because this is vital for Israel's security. This does not mean that the Egyptians are thrilled by this declaration -- but they understand the problems that exist there. In my view, it is far easier for the Egyptians to accept this kind of act today than it will be after April 1982.

[Schiffer] The changes in the defense establishment will be carried out. Over and over Sharon repeats what he has said in the past: The ministry's workers committee will not be the ones to make decisions on substantive matters having to do with the operation of the entire system. Nonetheless, the feeling among the committee members is that at the end of the week they gained a victory in their struggle. Arye Ganger will not join the Defense Ministry staff. Ari'el Sharon expressed regret at Ganger's decision, and added: The doors of the Defense Ministry will be open to him in the future also.

[Sharon] There is a problem here. Not his qualifications, not the security aspect of his employment -- the problem is that he was out of the country for many years, and I admit that there is a public problem here. But I think we must be capable of overcoming such problems, both in order to gain the maximum usefulness from every Jew we can -- and whom have we not forgiven in the past? We have forgiven just about everyone.

The reform in the defense establishment will augment and streamline the defense minister's control -- and it is he who expresses constitutionally the control of the civilian echelon; and that of the Defense Ministry's director general -- over the military.

[Schiffer] But the establishment will be handed by an IDF general.

[Sharon] The question is not one of personnel, it is a substantive one. The appointment this time is of a general, but in a different case it could be a civilian. It is not the uniform that makes the difference, but the substance of the matter, and the substance here is that in fact for the first time since the IDF was established, the logistics branch will be in the hands of two elements. On the one side the General Staff or the chief of staff, coordinating and controlling the military aspects of the branch; and on the other side the General Staff or the chief of staff, coordinating and controlling the military aspects of the branch; and on the other side the Defense Ministry's director general, with respect to the civilian aspects relating to the activity of the logistics branch. Thus not only is there no increase or takeover here by the military echelon; on the contrary, for the first time, control of the civilian echelon will be augmented.

[Schiffer] Nevertheless, how do you account for the fact that the workers committee, which represents the ministry's employees, is furious and is not ready to accept these planned steps?

[Sharon] Every change, every analysis is difficult. It must be borne in mind that this is an establishment where no changes have been introduced for many years. Like every such system, it too swelled and grew -- although it is an excellent establishment which has had extraordinary achievements. We as a country have reached a situation in which we are cutting flight hours for pilots, saving on shells for tank cannoneers -- to the point where we have reached the bottom line -- and have reached the bottom line in reservists' training. We cannot under any circumstances continue in a state of affairs where the gaps are so great. All these organizational systems were designed to supply -- in this case we dealt with logistics and construction -- to supply the combat echelon. It would be a very serious mistake -- and we shall on no account make that mistake -- if we, under pressure, continued to cut back at the combat level without touching the service level.

TV REPORTS HAIG COMMENTS TO 'EVRON ON GOLAN LAW

TA191932 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Alexander Haig has told Israel's ambassador in Washington that he is shocked and shudders go down his back because of the possibility that Israel would have approved the Golan Law the day after he had met with the prime minister and foreign minister in Jerusalem. These remarks are contained in a message Israeli Ambassador to Washington Efrayim 'Evron sent to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. This is reported by our political correspondent who notes that Mr Haig intended to visit Israel last Sunday but that the visit was canceled due to events in Poland.

The U.S. administration has for the time being canceled the visit of the head of the U.S. Agency for International Development to Israel. The head of the agency was to have examined additional ways of increasing economic aid to Israel.

The U.S. administration totally rejects the Israel Government's criticism about the suspension of the memorandum of understanding. Sharp criticism continues to be leveled in the United States against Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights.

'EVRON REGRETS SUSPENSION OF MEMORANDUM

TA182016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Israel's ambassador in Washington has expressed regret and deep disappointment at the administration's decision to suspend the memorandum of understanding.

Ambassador Efrayin 'Evron asserted that this was an unjust move that harms a friend and ally and that will undoubtedly give Syria, a Soviet satellite and ally of Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi, cause for satisfaction. The U.S. decision will not deter Israel from carrying out moves to ensure that the Golan will not be a base for Syrian aggression.

The Israeli ambassador's statement adds that the Golan Law passed by the Knesset does not violate any UN resolution or the Camp David accords. Israel continues to act in accordance with these resolutions and agreements.

DEFENSE CIRCLES REACT 'SHARPLY' TO U.S. SANCTION

TA181855 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1825 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Here is reaction that has just reached us regarding the United States' intention to cancel [levatel] the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation. Defense circles in Israel have sharply reacted to the report, saying it puts in question the U.S. commitment to the agreement because it was the Americans who insisted that the memorandum of understanding does not concern Arab confrontation states but instead the entry of Soviet forces into the region.

The security circles emphasized to our defense affairs corresponsent, Ron Ben-Yishay, that Israel is not obligated to coordinate with the United States on matters concerning the confrontation states. Therefore, the suspension [hash'aya] of the memorandum raises questions regarding the U.S. commitment to the Camp David accord.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ON CONFLICT WITH U.S.

TA201907 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Yehuda Ben-Me'ir interviewed via telephone on the "Evening Newsreel" by political correspondent Shi'on Schiffer -- live]

[Text] [Question] In your opinion, how will Israel's relations with the United States be after the prime minister's hard words to the U.S. ambassador? Was the style in which the prime minister spoke to the ambassador,in your opinion, previously discussed with the Foreign Ministry?

[Answer] First of all, I must say that the prime minister's remarks came in reaction to steps taken by the U.S. administration, grave steps that Israel, quite rightly, cannot accept and they should not be passed over and it is clear that the prime minister, in his remarks, represents the government. However, I would like to stress -- and I think, it is important -- that it is true that there are now profound differences of opinion between us and the United States, both with regard to the matter itself and with regard to their steps. However, everything should be seen against the background of a firm, basic infrastructure in my view, for friendly relations between Israel and the United States and between the two peoples. I am convinced that, just as we overcame differences of opinion of this kind in previous periods, we will find the way together to overcome them now without detracting from the very fact of the differences of opinion and the grave and unjustified step taken by the U.S. Government, a step which Israel, as I said, could not just pass over. But, in any event, as I said, this must be seen against the background and in the infrastructure of profound relations of friendship or cooperation for 36 years and the State of Israel, of course, will work to preserve these relations of friendship and cooperation.

[Question] But, Dr Ben-Me'r, you have not replied to the question of whether that style by the prime minister is acceptable to the Foreign Ministry and whether that style in relations of friendly countries, as you say -- you speak about an infrastructure of relations -- is acceptable to you?

[Answer] The style is a reaction to an action and a deed. In today's talk, as you know, the foreign minister also took part and, as I pointed out, the prime minister's remarks were made with the agreement of the entire Cabinet. I have no doubt of this, and they reflect the position of the Government of Israel and the position of the State of Israel. The prime minister's words, as I said, were certainly said against the background of a step which is incorrect, in our view, a grave step, a harmful step, a step which, in our view, is also an error. There cannot be the attitude, really, between friends, of inflicting a sort of punishment every time there are differences of opinion. There are ways to clear up differences of opinion on all levels, in all ways and this is not the way out and so I think the prime minister's reaction came, as I said, in reaction to a deed we regard with great gravity. And certainly the prime minister, in his remarks, reflects the position of the entire cabinet and, of course, the Foreign Ministry, too, undoubtedly. All the more so as, as I said, the foreign minister took part in the talk and in all the consultations that preceded it.

[Question] In your opinion, what are the moves that should now be made to rehabilitate the relations between the two countries?

[Answer] We should not speak about rehabilitation. I would use the term preservation. This is not something that requires rehabilitation. There are differences of opinion, but, as I pointed out, relations between the United States and Israel are continuing in all ways, in everything, in all forms. Israeli-U.S. cooperation exists in many areas. We have a great many things in the economic, security, cultural fields and so on. We must locate these differences of opinion. A very great deal depends on the United States. The State of Israel, for its part, certainly wants and is interested in, as I pointed out, locating the differences of opinion and not turning this into more than what it has already become. We have an interest in preserving correct and good relations with the United States, as we have preserved them all the time. However of course, the State of Israel must not concede interests that are vital to it, to its security and to the very fact of our national existence in Eretz Yisra'el. That is the basis of the whole matter.

[Question] Sir, for example, what about the memorandum of understanding for strategic cooperation? In your opinion, what will happen now? Has the lid been closed on that memorandum?

[Answer] Well, after all, today the prime minister said -- the words were published -- that the U.S. step is unjustified. After all, it is inconceivable that an agreement between two countries will be made dependent, each time, on the fact that we see eye to eye on all issues. This does not exist anywhere. Let us assume that there are differences of opinion on the issue of the Golan Heights. What connection is there between the fact that, as it were, the Americans suspend an agreement signed between two countries? This is not dependent on anything....

[Question] Yes, but the question is, what about the memorandum of understanding? What will happen to the memorandum of understanding?

[Answer] I am explaining. Therefore, at this moment, in my view of this step, in fact, the U.S. administration is emptying it of its contents and so the prime minister, quite rightly, said we will not be hostages with regard to this or that agreement.

Israel regards the agreement as canceled [bitul]. I assume that, with regard to the memorandum of understanding, it now depends on the United States. If the United States wants, at some stage, to renew the discussion between us on the issue, then it depends on the United States. In fact, the United States, by its act, led the Government of Israel to regard this as nonexistent and the same, of course, goes for the specific issue of the memorandum of understanding. It depends on the United States. [paragraph as heard]

This does not, of course, mean cooperation between us in many fields before the memorandum of understanding will not continue. This cooperation benefits both countries, not only Israel. The United States is aware of this mutual benefit. As for the memorandum of understanding itself -- the prime minister decided what he decided. That is Israel's position and the ball, on this issue, is in the U.S. court.

[Schiffer] Dr Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, thank you very much.

ARENS STILL SUPPORTS GOLAN HEIGHTS LAW

TA201719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] The chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, Moshe Arens, today said he has not retracted his support for the application of Israeli law on the Golan Heights despite U.S. reaction. Arens thinks the basic roots between the two countries are strong and he does not expect a deterioration or freeze in relations. He disagrees with the claim that U.S. public opinion is completely united against the Golan Heights Law.

Further Reports

TA202033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Our correspondent Razi Barqay brings us more reactions to the U.S.-Israel relations issue.

[Barqay -- live] Even if we had known that this is how the relations with the United States would deteriorate, we would have voted in favor of the Golan Heights Law, people in the Likud are saying this evening and they are giving the prime minister full backing in his fight against the United States. This is not a war, the chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, Prof Moshe Arens told us; but we will explain to the Americans that our security interests come before any other consideration.

[Begin recording] [Arens] The memorandum of understanding for strategic cooperation is an agreement we achieved on the assumption that it served the interests of both Israel and the United States. But based on the United States' punitive reaction we certainly get the impression that that is not how the U.S. administration sees it, but it regards the memorandum more as a gesture to Israel than something that also serves the interests of the United States. If this is the situation, then it is certainly not worthwhile maintaining that memorandum because it will be valid and to the point only if it serves both countries.

[Barqay] But there is an impression that a short has occurred here which perhaps has no precedent in relations between the two countries.

[Arens] I am certain that something exactly like this has never happened in the short-long history [phrase as heard] of Israeli-U.S. relations, but, as I said, I am convinced that the things that link us, the common interests we have, are what will, in the end, determine the type of relations there will be between us.

[Barqay] Professor Arens, do you accept the wording of the Cabinet announcement?

[Arens] I am sure that everyone would interpret it according to his own wishes, but if you try to get criticism from me about the Cabinet announcement, you will not succeed in doing that.

[Barqay] You supported the application of Israeli law on the Golan Heights. If you had known that this would be the result, a sort of deterioration like this in the relations between Israel and the United States, would you then, too, have supported that law?

[Arens] First of all, I want to remind you once more of my view, that what you call deterioration or even a war of words, I think that this is a phenomenon that is relatively temporary and it is not that which will determine the nature of the relations between Israel and the United States in the long term. In contrast to that, the Golan Heights Law that was passed by the Knesset is what will determine the situation of the Golan Heights and the situation of the population in the Golan Heights in the long term and that is the important thing. Therefore this thing was required by reality and it had to be passed and, in any event, while, at the same time, I think that we will take the Israeli-U.S. relations back to that level and quality [words indistinct] [end recording].

[Barqay] It turns out that the Labor Party, at this stage is taking a balanced line while taking care not to worsen relations with the government. There is no motion of confidence; there is criticism of both the countries and a call for reason. The party's secretary, Hayim Bar-Lev:

[Begin Bar-Lev recording] I think that the U.S. reaction is very sharp, unusual; the United States has never taken such steps toward Israel and this is a very saddening fact. The Israeli reaction, in my opinion, should not be that of throwing a glove down in front of the United States, but the reaction should be a search for a way to dialogue and a way out of this crisis. The cancellation of the memorandum of strategic understanding by Israel -- I do not think that this is something significant. We did not regard -- we, the Alignment, did not regard the strategic memorandum with great admiration and its cancellation -- that is also not something significant.

I am personally happy over the fact that it is canceled because I do not think that Israel has any interest whatsoever in coming to strategic understanding with one superpower, that is, the United States, against a second superpower, that is, the Soviet Union, but what I do regret is that, instead of now, after those sharp moves, trying to come to a new line with the United States, the Government of Israel has made things worse by its announcement and I do not know where this might go from here. [end recording]

ALIGNMENT DEMANDS DEBATE ON U.S. RELATIONS

TA210546 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The Alignment is demanding that the Knesset this week discuss the state of relations with the United States. In a consultation held at the Labor Party chairman's office it was concluded that if the Likud faction does not raise this issue on its own initiative, the Alignment will demand that this topic be discussed tomorrow. Our correspondent reports that the Alignment members participating in the consultation with Peres leveled harsh criticism at the prime minister's style of reaction to the United States.

MK Yitzhaq Rabin said yesterday that the U.S. administration had long been looking for a way to deviate from the Camp David accords and it is to be doubted whether the Americans will adhere to the accords when the Sinai withdrawal is completed.

The Shinuy faction announced it will submitted a motion of nonconfidence against the government due to the decision to cancel the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation with the United States.

PERES DISCUSSES U.S. PUNITIVE MEASURES

TA191946 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has said the punitive measures taken by the United States against Israel are a very regrettable development. However, this is not because of the suspension of the strategic agreement, whose value is anyway in doubt, but because of the breach evolving in the relations between Israel and the United States.

In a talk with our correspondent, Asher Schwartz, Shim'on Peres said the Labor Party believes political understanding comes prior to strategic understanding. Peres denied the report published by U.S. columnists Evans and Novak according to which Peres, during his visit in the United States, warned U.S. administration leaders about the extending of the Israeli law to the Golan. Peres said that in his talks with U.S. administration leaders -- all of which were attended by Israel's ambassador to Washington -- the Golan issue was not discussed.

Criticizes Begin

TA200758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Telephone interview with Shim'on Peres, chairman of the Labor Party, by unidentified correspondent -- live]

[Text] [Question] Good morning to you Mr Peres.

[Answer] Good morning.

[Question] What is your reaction to the reports and remarks released in Washington on Friday evening?

[Answer] I regret and totally oppose these remarks. I do not think Israel is a small child that should be put in a corner and punished. This is unacceptable to me. From this point of view we will of course all stand together. However, there is no point in concealing that it is about time that some internal lessons should be learned. I know that at the end of the week some of our closest colleages were intoxicated by the prime minister's clever timing. But it is clear now that the timing was miserable. In my opinion, this law added nothing to the Golan Heights either. As one who believes that Israel should remain on the Golan Heights I think we only unnecessarily complicated our stay there by implementing this law. However, regarding the case in hand, the most worrisome thing is that the government simply does not know how to read the U.S. map. We are continually fed with almost imaginary stories about how the United States depends on us. I heard Ari'el Sharon's remarks last night and could not believe my ears. According to him the United States almost penalized itself. Well, this is a little exaggerated. I view the main difficulty as being the fact that this is a deep psychological crisis between the United States and Israel, and this worries me very much. This will be a great burden on Israel -- a burden that Israel does not want. More than anything else, one should again develop political understanding between Israel and the United States.

I do not attach great importance to the suspension of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation. Its birth was questionable and its death or suspension comes without regret. It is an imaginary, farfetched Israeli commitment to help the United States on some African front without getting anything in return. I also agree that this memorandum is not binding -- neither on the United States to consult us nor on us to consult the United States. However, we need a realistic government which sometimes displays wisdom, a government which knows how to read the U.S. map. Decisions contrary to the United States can be made. There is no disaster in this. However, we cannot then go around saying that we took all the possible reactions into account, and so on.

[Question] Mr Peres, tell me what exactly you mean when you say that we will all stand together in the wake of U.S. measures?

[Answer] From the point of view of intervention and pressure on Israel, we will of course reject this. We will reject the general lecturing and reprimand given to Israel. There are things that Israel itself should conclude, without the help of the United States. We will stand up to attempts to exert pressure on Israel. I am very afraid this is not the end. We stood together regarding the Saudi plan; we stood together regarding the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] affair which ultimately quietly subsided. But let me add one more thing. I would like to tell a great many citizens in Israel, all those who were almost happy about the blitz democracy of Mr Begin: Please see the importance of real democratic procedures, not procedures involving rash, lightning acts concluded quickly. I am convinced that if there had been a serious discussion in the Knesset, in the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, different opinions would had been heard. If we had a government in which at least one minister would have dared to inform the prime minister of the potential damages this might cause Israel, our situation would be a bit better today. As it was -- they woke up in the morning, they discussed the matter for 2 hours, at 1330 they called the opposition, and at 1600 they brought the proposal to the Knesset. All in all, genius-like moves. But what is so ingenuous about the result?

[Question] Mr Peres, thank you for these remarks. Good morning to you again.

[Answer] Good morning.

Calls for Talks with U.S.

TA201635 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has said that talks with the United States should begin at once. Peres was speaking today at the end of a special meeting of the Labor Party's political committee, where it was decided to call on the Knesset to hold a debate on the subject of Israeli-U.S. relations. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar brings us some of his remarks.

[Begin Peres recording] Without going into the sources of the crisis just now, a crisis is not the target of policy. Speaking with the United States is one of the cornerstones of Israel's policy and, in my opinion, the most urgent thing is to reach thorough and renewed dialogue. I do not accept the punishment by the U.S. Government; nor do I accept the zigzags of our government. I certainly think that Israel has known in its relations with the United States [sentence as heard]. Well, as I said, I think there are things that must be rejected out of hand with regard to acts or things said by the United States, but I do not think anger or pique are the only possible reactions. How did the defense minister phrase it: Adult reactions are needed, but not only by the United States, from all sides. [end recording]

Further Labor Comment

TA201744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] The Labor Party heads have decided to react in a moderate and balanced way to the prime minister's remarks. In their opinion, it is not fitting to level severe criticism at the government when it is involved in a sharp confrontation with the United States. Accordingly, the party's secretary, Hayim Bar-Lev, says that the U.S. step against Israel is unprecedently severe while the Israeli reaction has worsened the crisis instead of trying to pave the way to rapprochement.

The Ratz movement Secretariat is horrified at what it calls the Massadah complex emerging from the prime minister's declarations about the United States. Ratz says the strategic agreement with the United States was born from a sin and canceled stupidly and hastily. Flexing muscles through verbal aggression says Ratz, are no substitute for rational policy.

SHINUY SUBMITS NONCONFIDENCE MOTION TO KNESSET

TA202155 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] The Shinuy faction has submitted to the Knesset a motion of nonconfidence in the government for the way it handled the crisis with the United States and exacerbated the dispute with it after the passage of the Golan Law in the Knesset through comments of the prime minister and defense minister.

On the other hand, MK Ge'ule Kohen of the Tehiya movement wlecomes the prime minister's proud reaction and adds that it should be coupled with a decision to stop the withdrawal from the Sinai and to prepare the Israeli people for the upcoming confrontation from the economic, political and informative points of view.

FURTHER KNESSET REACTION ON U.S. RELATIONS

Eban Views 'Crisis'

TA201400 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Dec 81 p 2

[Text] Speaking on television last night, MK Abba Eban said that the current crisis between Israel and the United States is the most serious he can recall in the history of the countries' bilateral relations. This is the first crisis in which the administration, Congress, the media and many members of the Jewish public are united and all of them are asking why it was necessary to take such action on the Golan, when the previous situation was perfect.

In response to a question on how the situation can be resolved, Eban said that with a few more speeches and announcements by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, the situation will be irrevocable.

MK Milo on U.S. Reaction

TA191415 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Herut MK Roni Milo states that the United States' reaction justifies the passing of the Golan Law in the Knesset prior to completing the withdrawal from the Sinai. Milo, a member of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, said the reaction is worrisome indeed but after the withdrawal, the United States will have no brakes to apply to brutal [last word in English] pressure on Israel. It should be made clear to Washington that Israel is not Taiwan with whom a pact can be signed and then suspended.

Rubinstein Says People Misled

TA201822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] MK Amnon Rubinstein of Shinuy has said that the government has been misleading the public with its claims -- as Rubinstein phrased it -- that the memorandum of understanding is a worthless paper. He recalled that a few days ago the government described the memorandum as a historic document that opens a new era. Rubinstein holds the Knesset members who supported the Golan Heights Law responsible for the deterioration in Israel's relations with the United States.

Rom, Gur Discuss Ties

TA201702 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Members of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee toured the Golan Heights today and our correspondent, Gay Tzucker, asked for the reactions of two of them to today's Cabinet session.

First, the reaction of MK Yosef Rom, Likud:

[Begin recording] [Rom] I think there are sometimes differences of opinion even between friends. There is no doubt that the reactions from the United States to the issue of the application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights were more severe than what was required with regard to the political process and certainly not in the way that should have been between friendly countries. I hope the misunderstanding that exists on this issue will be clarified between the Governments of Israel and the United States and the understanding that existed between the two countries will be renewed.

[Tzucker] MK Mordekhay Gur, what is your opinion about the Cabinet session?

[Gur] Well, it is not new. From the first moment I did not have many hopes about the memorandum of understanding. I saw very many disadvantages but, without any doubt, I very much regret the fact that it has become a tool for punishing us. That is something nobody thought about. I certainly do not accept that way of punishment by the Americans and I think that they created a situation that almost committed us to a sharp reaction. I hope that a way will very quickly be found both for the U.S. administration and our government not to punish each other.

[Tzucker] In what situation would you describe relations at present between Israel and the United States?

[Gur] To my great regret, it is impossible to ignore the fact that they are very bad. There have recently been several issues on which the Americans did not completely accept what we did and there were reactions by them that angered us -- and rightly so. The issues are genuine ones and I think that, for lack of choice, in the near future we will have to sit down with them at the table and clarify, substantively, the political paths for both countries and the ability to cooperate because I, personally, believe that there is a genuine basis for strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel. Apparently we have not actually found the correct basis and we will have to work together to find the correct basis. [end recording]

MAPAM ORGANIZES ANTI-GOLAN LAW DEMONSTRATION

TA191835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] About 5,000 people have gathered at Tel Aviv's Kings of Israel Square to protest the annexation of the Golan. The demonstration was organized by the MAPAM Party. Speakers criticized Labor Party Knesset members who supported the decision to apply Israeli law in the Golan Heights.

TREASURY OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON U.S. DECISION

TA200933 Jerusalem POST in English 20 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] The American suspension of programmes intended to boost Israel's defence-related industries will not immediately harm Israel's economy, Prof 'Ezra Sadan, director-general of the treasury, said yesterday.

Sadan stressed that the ban applied only to proposals that had not yet been implemented. He was referring in particular to the clause in the strategic cooperation agreement to which third countries would spend in Israel the military aid funds they receive from the United States. Sadan said that no equipment has yet been purchased under this arrangement, and he foresaw no short-term industrial damage, such as unemployment, as a result of the ban.

Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon at a meeting with defence correspondents, also sought to downplay the economic damage the sanctions will cause. But other senior defense officials later said they were worried by the suspension.

DAVAR: SANCTIONS' IMPACT ON DEFENSE INDUSTRY

TA201530 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Dec 81 p 1

[Report by "The military correspondent"]

[Text] The sanctions taken by the United States in reaction to the application of Israeli law on the Golan might harm the defense industries and bring about the dismissal of thousands of workers. Members of the defense establishment regard such moves as unfair U.S. administration economic pressure.

What the U.S. decision means is that the export of various major items manufactured by the defense industries, such as the Kfir aircraft and other products with U.S.-made components will be banned. Members of the defense establishment regard as very serious the decision not to make possible the conversion of dollars into shekels.

This correspondent noted that when the United States complied with Israel's request and converted part of the dollars into shekels, that made possible the expansion of the Merkava tank production line. The impossibility of converting the dollars into shekels means a real damage to the continued production of essential components in Israel, such as arms systems and the development of other weapons. The defense establishment also fears that the ban on this conversion and the prohibition on U.S. purchases of defense industries items worth $200 million -- even if it only lasts for a few months -- will have a severe effect and would lead to the dismissal of thousands of employees in vital industries. The damage will not be confined only to the suspension, but will also have an impact later, because if workers are fired, and most of them are competent workers, they might try to find work in other places so that their reemployment by these industries would either be impossible, or would require a lot of time.

Some Israeli elements interpret the U.S. moves as an attempt to harm the status of Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, whom the Reagan administration views as the person responsible for the Israeli Cabinet's decision to pass the Golan Law.

The suspension of the strategic memorandum of understanding is aimed, according to Israeli elements, at hurting minister Sharon's prestige, after he had described the memorandum as a historic shift. According to those circles, the Americans fear additional moves by the defense minister and therefore need to react strongly and determinedly, as was done in the recent administration decisions.

WEST BANK PERSONAGES PLEASED WITH U.S. ACTIONS

TA201352 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Dec 81 p 2

[Report by Yosef Tzuriel]

[Text] The U.S. decision to impose sanctions against Israel has been received with satisfaction by Arab notables in east Jerusalem and the territories.

This is the first time in a long while that these personalities have commended the U.S. leadership.

Last night, a differnt tone was used regarding the United States, as Bethelhem Major Ilyas Frayj, as well as other public figures Karim Khalaf and Rasah as-Shawwa expressed total satisfaction with the U.S. decision.

BEGIN REACTIONS TO WEINBERGER'S REMARKS

TA210527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Secretary of Defense Weinberger said yesterday that one should distinguish between a breach with the Israeli Government and a breach with the people of Israel. Weinberger expressed deep disappointment about Begin's style of sharp reaction yesterday. He explained that in the opinion of the U.S. administration there can be no indifference to a surprising and unilateral step such as that adopted by Israel on the Golan Heights. Such a move undermines both the letter and the spirit of UN Resolution 242. In reaction to the Israeli Government's statement that it will not cancel the Golan Law, Weinberger stated that the governments change and policies change.

The prime minister immediately reacted to the U.S. Secretary of Defense's remark by saying: It should be remembered that secretaries of defense also change.

UN AMBASSADOR REJECTS RESOLUTION ON GOLAN

TA181313 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Israel has rejected the UN Security Council resoution passed last night condemning the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights and calling for repeal of the law. As for reaction this morning, the Foreign Ministry spokesman referred newsman to the statement by Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Blum last night after the vote. Blum said the resolution was one-sided and unacceptable. More on the resolution and the voting from Judy Lessing in New York:

[Begin recording] [Lessing] The vote was unanimous. As the State Department has already said, the United States opposes the Knesset action and does not recognize it as valid. America is acutely aware that the future of the Golan Heights involves sensitive issues on both sides, and Israel's unilateral action makes future negotiations more complicated and difficult, their representative declared.

Ambassador Yehuda Blum said Israel does not accept the resolution because it is unbalanced and ignores Syria's repeated aggression against Israel since 1948.

[Blum] The Syrian representative has also pointed out that this resolution which the council adopted does not require anything of Syria. This is precisely the problem. If it had been a balanced resolution that would have addressed itself to the root cause of the Arab-Israel conflict and to the conflict that has been in existence between our two countries, it would have required of Syria to ease its policy of aggression against my country, to sit down with us, to negotiate with us and to work out a peaceful settlement as is required by international law and by the UN Charter.

[Lessing] The council has set January 5th for the day it will meet again on the issue if the Knesset decision is allowed to stand. This is Judy Lessing in New York. [end recording]

Later the United States voted against the resolution in the General Assembly on the same issue, but that resolution contained the call for sanctions against Israel. The U.S. delegate said this was unacceptable.

Official Reaction

TA181337 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Officials in Jerusalem reacted to the UN Security Council resolution to annul the annexation of the Golan by stating that no world body can change a sovereign decision of a country and its legislators. The officials noted to foreign correspondents in Jerusalem that although the world critics of the Golan annexation claimed this violated UN Resolutions 242 and 338 these resolutions were not mentioned in the UN Security Council announcement. This indicates how far the UN Security Council is ready to go in submitting to Syria's pressures.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: MUBARAK REACTION TO GOLAN LAW

TA181115 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 Dec 81 pp 1, 3

[Smadar Peri report]

[Text] In reaction to the imposition of Israeli law on the Golan Heights, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is holding a series of consultations with representatives of all the parties and unions in Egypt.

These consultations have been going on for 2 days without a break and after each of them an announcement is issued stressing the vigorous and specifically negative position taken by Cairo on the Golan Heights Law.

Each of the announcements also repeats the negative and dangerous implications of the new law, especially with regard to the possibility of persuading other Arab countries in the future to join the peace process.

However, from what has been said by the participants in the consultations, a fairly clear picture is emerging: While President Mubarak is coming out with great gravity against the Golan Heights Law and regards it as a grave obstacle on the road to the achievement of comprehensive peace in the area, he is not in favor of taking sanctions against Israel, at least for the moment, particularly with regard to anything involving relations between the two countries and the normalization negotiations and autonomy talks.

This is how his decision [not] to suspend or cancel outright the planned departure for Israel of Tourism Minister Jammal an-Nazir a few hours after the Golan Heights Law was passed by the Knesset at its third reading is being explained. Cairo administration officials add the explanation that it was decided not to cancel Minister an-Nazir's visit in order not to give Israel any pretext for claiming that the cancellation damaged normalization between the two countries.

The visit to Israel by an Egyptian minister following the Knesset's approval of the Golan Heights Law is seen as proof in Cairo of the continuing firmness of Egypt's position of sticking with the peace process and not to "punish" Israel for approving the Golan Heights Law. There were people who expected sanctions by Egypt and the evaluation is that if As-Sadat were president today, he would indeed use some sort of sanctions. But not Husni Mubarak, whose style is different from that of his predecessor.

Mubarak does not like dramatics and exaggerations and he has already made a name for himself as one who prefers to calculate his moves well and act with wisdom and moderation.

As part of the diplomatic moves, he has sent a letter to Prime Minister Menahem Begin. In all these letters [as published] he explained Egypt's unequivocal stand on the Golan Heights Law.

Tomorrow morning, too, a debate on the issue of the imposition of Israeli law on the Golan Heights is expected, with the participation of all the government ministers in Cairo. Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will then go to the parliament in Cairo and inform it of the report prepared in his ministry on the topic of the "effects of the law of annexation of the Golan Heights as a stumbling block in the process of comprehensive peace in the area."

Mubarak Message to Begin

TA201409 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Dec 81 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] An envoy dispatched by the Egyptian president, who arrived here on a special plane, brought a personal message from Mr Husni Mubarak to Prime Minister Mr Menahem Begin on Friday.

In his message, Mr Mubarak wrote that Egypt would like Israel to reconsider applying the Israeli law on the Golan Heights, adding that this unilateral move harms the comprehensive regional peace process.

The message is written in a restrained style and emphasizes the need to have a joint Egyptian-Israeli effort to expand the basis of peace. The Egyptian president's message did not expand on the Golan Law issue; rather, it gave greater emphasis to the significance of the continued steps for peace.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin will soon reply to President Mubarak's letter and will explain the motivations for the Israeli decision.

LIBYA

PEOPLE'S BUREAU DENOUNCES REAGAN ON POLAND

LD191002 Tripoli JANA in English 0915 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Dec (JANA) -- During his press conference last Thursday the American President Reagan discussed with severity the latest developments in the Polish crisis following the military crackdown in Poland which aims at stabilizing helpful conditions to the Polish people to solve their crisis and defend their country.

The American President said that according to him the present situation in Poland is of extreme danger and that his administration will not be able to forward economic aid to the Polish people in order to help them solve their economic crisis as long as there is a military rule in the country.

The People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau issued a statement yesterday afternoon to comment on these statements which denounce U.S. administration's intervention in the internal affairs of Poland. Following is the full text:

For the second time, Reagan discloses the terrorist and aggressive nature of his personality, since he gives himself the right to intervene boldly and flagrantly in the internal affairs of others.

When Reagan announces before international public opinion his interference in the affairs of Poland, and falsely alleges his concern over the freedom of its people, he is proving his ignorance of the nature and circumstances of matters and in particular his obvious ignorance of the great history of the Polish people.

The freedom of the Polish people was the product of a bitter struggle, as Poland was a scene of fierce battles fought by the Polish people courageously against nazism and fascism to reinforce their freedom and national independence. Reagan's announcement to stop U.S. economic aid to Poland using the pretext of the new military rule is evidence of the U.S. policy of terrorizing and submitting the people by using the weapon and economic aids.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which has close links and strong friendship with Poland, strongly condemns any intervention into the internal affairs of this friendly people by the imperialists and calls upon all the peoples of the world to joint efforts towards putting an end to the madness for power, force and arrogance that outline Reagan's policy.

Let Regard realize that the world is not a U.S. property but for all the peoples, great and small, and that he cannot control the destiny of the peoples and bring them to submission because man kneels only to God and not to Reagan's administration.

LIBYA DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN DOZIER KIDNAPPING

LD201446 Tripoli JANA in English 0823 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Dec (JANA) -- The Italian paper IL GIORNALE DI SICILIA yesterday alleged that two leading members of the Reagan administration do not discount that Libya was behind the kidnapping of the U.S. General James Dozier in Italy.

This impudent allegation against Libya reveals the newspaper's stupidity and ignorance. The kidnapping operation, as mentioned in the official and unofficial Italian news media, was carried out by the Red Brigades who also confirmed their responsibility for the operation.

But, as if to confirm its status as lackey to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, IL GIORNALE DI SICILIA has intentionally implicated Libya in the kidnapping. This is not the first time that the paper carries out such a role, for it had earlier sought to poison Libyan-Italian relations and has harmed the historic relations linking the Libyan people with the Italian people in Sicily.

The allegations perpetrated by IL GIORNALE DI SICILIA were herefigments of the imagination that come as part of the series of allegations fabricated by the Reagan administration against Libya.

OIL MINISTER SUGGESTS EUROPEANS REPLACE U.S.

NC202229 Paris AFP in English 2215 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Dec (AFP) -- Libya suggested today that European petroleum companies and experts would be welcome to replace the Americans being pulled out of Libya.

Libyan Oil Minister 'Abd as-Salam az-Zaq'ar told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE:

"The Americans have dominated our petroleum industry since its creation, in prospecting, drilling and supplying equipment. That will no longer be the case. The door is now wide open to Europe."

U.S. companies handle 60 percent of Libya's oil output at present.

Mr az-Zaq'ar predicted that all American oil technicians will leave Libya, as urged by White House officials 10 days ago amid concern over an alleged Libyan assassination plot against President Ronald Reagan.

The Libyan minister estimated there were 600 U.S. petroleum technicians among a total of 2,500 Americans living in Libya. (Other reports have said there are 1,500 Americans in Libya.)

"A hundred oilmen already have left and have been mostly replaced by other nationalities," the oil minister said.

The U.S. pullout and need for spare parts would only perturb oil output for a while, Mr az-Zaq'ar forecast. He said the status of the U.S. oil companies in Libya would be unchanged: "Aside from Esso Libya (Exxon), none of the them has asked to stop its operations here." Libya holds a majority of stock in all U.S. oil affiliates in this country.

The minister said Iran and a number of Arab countries have promised technical help and spare parts to compensate for the departure of the Americans.

Mr az-Zaq'ar said Libyan oil output rose above one million barrels a day this month because Libya's crude oil price was lowered to 36.50 dollars a barrel last October in agreement with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Output had slumped from 1,400,000 barrels a day at the start of the year to 600,000 barrels in September. Mr az-Zaq'ar said that was due to the world oil glut, the Western recession, and Libya's high price of 40 dollars.

He said reports that Libya opposed letting neighboring Tunisia join the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) were "exaggerated and twisted." Libya had merely asked for a delay to study the case, he said.

REAGAN FAILS TO SUPPORT HIT SQUAD CLAIMS

LD191028 Tripoli JANA in English 0825 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Washington, 19 Dec (JANA) -- The American President, Reagan, showed himself entirely incapable of providing any evidence to prove the validity of his allegation regarding Libya's dispatching an alleged assassination squad to America to kill him and some of his allies.

This failure was apparent in all the answers given to pressmen with whom he met last Thursday during the press conference in Washington.

Despite his insistence to raise the questions about these allegations to pressmen, he still evaded answering the flood of questions requesting from him to give to the American public opinion any evidence to save him and his aides from disgrace. Journalists considered that Reagan, by avoiding to answer their questions, was trying to protect himself from the eventual risk of having his lies discovered and his allegations immediately discarded.

What was clearly observed during the press conference was Reagan's failure to present any evidence that proves his allegations against Libya when he alleged that he gave instructions to the top journalists, referring to his close reporters who receive his rumours to circulate, to stop completely from reporting on his stories and allegations.

President Reagan fumed and said: "I personally told the top journalists to stop publishing this story," and very rudely admitted that several members of the Congress have reiterated the same allegations against Libya, but those were unauthorized and had no sources of information. Reagan acknowledged his ignorance of the reality of the security situation surrounding the American citizens in the Jamahiriyah and siad: "I feel very sorry for the difficulties my decision has created for them. They, in Libya, have many friends and it is very difficult for them to leave Libya."

Thus Reagan presents himself to the American and world public opinion as a person who takes offhand decisions based on the lies of informers and rumours of the agents.

JANA CARRIES STATEMENT OF NASIRITE ORGANIZATION

LD201714 Tripoli JANA in English 1434 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Dec (JANA) -- The Egyptian Nasirite organization which operates from outside Egypt issued a statement appealing to the Arab people and their revolutionary forces to shoulder their responsibilities in the struggle against the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary onslaught against intensifying [as received] the Arab nation and in particular the Jamahiriyah which is the steadfast citadel of Arabism.

The statement pointed to the historic role of imperialism in the Arab region which, it said, is now repeating its aggressive anti-Arab revolution of the fifties and sixties but with a marked increase in viciousness. The arab revolutionary forces, it stressed, should retaliate against these imperialist and Zionist conspiracies especially as the Arab nation possesses all the necessary resources to thwart the enemy and crush these conspiracies.

The revolutionary Arab forces, it reiterated, will staunchly stand by the Jamahiriyah in countering all plots concocted by che Reagan administration against it people.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI WANTS EXTRA-AFRICAN PEACE FORCE

AB201233 Paris AFP in French 1143 GMT 20 Dec 81

[By AFP special correspondent Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Libreville, 20 Dec (AFP) -- President Goukouni Oueddei advocates the sending of an extra-African force to Chad to replace the one mandated by the OAU and whose presence, he said, has become useless.

Questioned Sundary in Libreville, Gabon, where he participated in the deliberations of the 17th summit meeting of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC], the Chadian president reaffirmed his country's disagreement with the OAU on the role of the inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad. It's better, he said, to hope for the sending of an extra-African force whose role would be to contribute effectively to the reorganization and the formation of the Chadian Army.

Accusing the current OAU chairman, President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, of not seeing to the respect of the implementation of the resolution on Chad, which was adopted last June in Nairobi, Kenya, Goukouni added that under these conditions, the presence of such an important force in Chad is useless.

The Chadian Government feels that, henceforth, it is useless to maintain and keep such a force on its territory since it does nothing to safeguard security and integrity in Chad, he added.

We have the duty to press for the strict application of the Nairobi resolution because we are convinced that too many things are being done in the name of solidarity with our country without the knowledge of Chad, he continued. Goukouni then expressed regret that the OAU does not take Chad's sovereignty in account.

To us, the text signed between the Chadian Government and the OAU on the sending of the neutral force to Chad is clear: It states that this force should ensure the security and integrity of Chad. But on the field, its role is passive. Therefore, it is of no use.

Goukouni, however, stated that it is premature to say when Chad plans to officially ask for the withdrawal of the neutral force, which is made up of soldiers from Zaire, Senegal and Nigeria. He also explained that Chad had never wanted, even planned, to command the neutral force. We only want the OAU to simply assign it, as the agreement stipulates, a military role.

Goukouni also said it is difficult to determine the position of Egypt and Sudan with regard to Hissein Habre's FAN. We have only received assurances that these two countries will no longer assist Hissein Habre's rebellion, he added.

However, the Chadian president, without fixing a date, confirmed he soon would pay a working visit to Sudan. It is only after discussions with the Sudanese president that I will know the official position of this country.

Finally, Goukouni declared that he did not want to meet Edem Kodjo, OAU secretary general, who also is participating in the UDEAC summit as an observer. I have no desire because presently we have nothing to say to each other.

FOREIGN MINISTER DESCRIBES 'BAD SITUATION'

AB201157 Paris AFP in English 1151 GMT 20 Dec 81

[By Jean-Paul Rodrigue]

[Text] Ati, central Chad, 20 Dec (AFP) -- As Nigerian troops of the Chadian peacekeeping force sit outside Ati waiting for orders, Chadian Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat prepares to fight the rebel troops of former Cabinet colleague Hissein Harbre now threatening his heartland in a drive west.

Mr Acyl, head of the Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDR), one of Chad's many factions represented in the Transitional Government of National Unity, told AFP that his forces badly needed arms, ammunition, food and medical supplies.

In fighting further east against Mr Habre's FAN, notably round Abeche in mid-November and at Kotoro-Falata at the beginning of this month, the CDR suffered heavy losses. But if I had not been there Hissein would have been in Ati by now, Mr Acyl said. We want people in Ndjamena (the Chadian capital) to know how bad the situation is and take it seriously.

The foreign minister expressed strong dissent with President Goukouni Oueddei's statement in a recent press conference that he would be prepared to negotiate with the FAN. Such negotiations, even without Hissein Habre, are unforseeable, Mr Acyl said.

But he agreed with President Goukouni that the inter-African peacekeeping force was not playing the role it ought to in Chad, of ensuring national security.

Some 600 to 700 Nigerians, the advance guard of their national contingent, are encamped beside the airfield here, with armoured reconnaissance vehicles and white-painted landrovers marked with letters OAU (Organisation of African Unity) in black. The OAU contingent arrived after the Libyan garrison called in by President Goukouni a year ago to help him throw the FAN out of Ndjamena pulled out again two months ago, once more at the president's request.

Mr Acyl denied charges frequently made that he was pro-Libyan, saying that his opinions had been falsified. All I said was that once the Libyan withdrawal had been completed a replacement force had to be found to support the government, he declared.

But the foreign minister backed up Libya's regular allegations that Sudanese troops are fighting alongside the FAN, saying they were present at Abeche which the FAN took a month ago.

Mr Acyl said that both Egypt and Sudan would continue supplying aid to the FAN, despite assurances to the contrary secured by Chadian Justice Minister Kassire Koumakoye on a recent visit to Cairo and Khartoum. I have never been against a dialogue with either country, but I have doubts about their sincerity, Mr Acyl said.

VIOLENT FIGHTING REPORTED BETWEEN FACTIONS

AB191225 Paris AFP in French 1150 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 19 Dec (AFP) -- Violent fighting broke out at Mongo, central Chad, at the beginning of December between the soldiers of the Democratic Revolutionary Council [CDR] led by Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat and the elements of Interior Minister Mahamat Abba Said's 1st Army, several sources disclosed on Saturday.

According to a CDR military official interviewed by AFP, some 500 followers of Abba Said came from the neighboring area of Bitkin and attacked twice on 4 and 7 December whereas a draft reconciliation agreement had just been signed locally between the two factions.

According to the same official, these encounters were bloody. Soldiers of the 1st Army, numerous on the field, lost 60 people during the two encounters. The CDR's losses are not known.

As far back as October, Mongo was the site of clashes between the two factions. Officially, 10 people were reported killed at that time--a figure which according to other sources, was substantially less than the correct number of victims.

AFP CORRESPONDENT ON MILITARY SITUATION IN EAST

AB191357 Paris AFP in French 1214 GMT 19 Dec 81

[By AFP special envoy Jean-Paul Rodrigue]

[Text] Oum Hadjer (eastern Chad), 19 Dec (AFP)--A month after the fall of Abeche into the hands of Hissein Habre's FAN, government forces are still on the defensive in the east of the country, meeting with logistic as well as organizational difficulties.

An AFP special envoy who has just spent 1 week in the east observed that the counter-offensive announced some 15 days ago by Ndjamena is still under preparation and one cannot rightly say, in view of on-the-spot observations, that the conditions for its success are all set.

At Oum Hadjer, a small straggling village of 5,000 inhabitants situated 150 km east of Abeche, officials of the headquarters of the National Integrated Army [ANI] accept the manner in which Hissein Habre's forces--which have accelerated their activities since the withdrawal of Libyan forces in November--have been progressing.

Apart from several neighboring areas along the Sudanese border, FAN controls the capital of two prefectures--Abeche and Biltine--and directly threatens Le Batha, of which Oum Hadjer is the eastern stronghold.

Stationary, but not for long--this is how Rakhis Manani, first deputy to the ANI chief of defense staff, describes the situation in the east. Surrounded by his officers squatting on a shadowy terrace, he examines a list showing the details of their needs in weapons, ammunitions and foodstuffs.

With his face banded in a long black turban and with an elegant posture, Rakhis Manani looks calm and determined. He knows Hissein Habre very well; he is the one, exactly a year ago, chased him out when the FAN had evacuated Ndjamena to seek refuge in the massive eastern mountains.

Time is working against him, he said, referring to Hissein Habre. He has to advance rapidly--before we consolidate our position. But our great problem is, he adds, that we have to drive back the enemy and at the same time form an army, some of our soldiers have neither weapons nor uniforms.

Two batallions of the ANI, flanked by many hundreds of supporters of Ahmat Acyl, leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Council [CDR] this week took up positions situated about 30 km east of Oum Hadjer. On Wednesday, the first group of the 1,300 soldiers of the Chadian Armed Forces [FAT] sent to the east as reinforcements arrived at Oum Hadjer from Ati, 170 km to the west. This disparate force--professional soldiers, young recruits not used to fighting, soldiers of the CDR entirely devoted to their leader--henceforth has a common mission: to stop the advancement of the FAN and to retake Abeche.

This semidesert region, covered by thorns where sandy roads lengthen the duration of journeys, is propitious to guerrilla activities. Government forces had the experience at the beginning of the month, when Hissein Habre's supporters carried out within 24 hours two deadly raids around Kotoro-Falata, a water belt situated 70 km east of Oum Hadjer. Since then, the young soldiers of the ANI and the CDR know that it is better not to be hit in the chest or in the abdomen -- the length of evacuation to hospitals at Ati and Ndjamena rules out any chance of survival.

We lack ammunition, means of transport, armored vehicles, any form of logistics. I went to Ndjamena to make known some of our needs. I hope I was heard. This is how Rakhis Manani summarizes the state of mind of the officials and members of the forces. The latter hear on the radio that dozens of arms and ammunition recently arrived in Ndjamena from France and that Algeria is giving important logistic assistance to the ANI; they do not feel they will be the sole beneficiaries of these.

The vice president of the Transitional National Union Government, Col Abdel Kader Kamougue, this week gave a warning on his return to the capital after a brief visit to the east.

It appears the success of the military efforts in preparation for the eastern front will depend on the government's capability to respond to the needs and expectations of its soldiers.

FAO COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR ROUNDTABLE NEGOTIATION

AB181247 Paris AFP in French 1028 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Yaounde, 18 Dec (AFP) -- The 3rd Army of the Western Armed Forces [FAO], one of the politicomilitary factions in Chad, whose members are mostly stationed at the banks of Lake Chad, demands the organization of a roundtable negotiation grouping the 11 factions which signed the Lagos accord, including Hissein Habre's FAN.

In a communique sent to AFP in Yaounde today, FAO states that this discussion should take place under the auspices of the OAU. The FAO feels only the Lagos accord on the Chadian problem, applied in its totality, can restore true peace in the country.

In its communique, the FAO, concerned with the achievement of national unity, calls on the OAU and all the countries participating in the neutral force to support the application of the Lagos accords. The departure of the Libyan forces of occupation and the stationing of the neutral force only constitute one stage on the way to peace, the communique adds.

MPLT DENOUNCES U.S. AID TO PEACE FORCE TROOPS

AB191407 Paris AFP in French 1108 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Lagos, 19 Dec (AFP) -- Aboubakar Mahamat Abdraman, founding chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Chad [MPLT], on Friday denounced the arrival in Chad of American military equipment and North American aggression in that country.

Abdraman, who is against North American assistance to the Zairian contingent in the inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad, appeals to all peace-loving peoples to condemn this aggression. Abdraman also speaks of the Reagan administration's hostility against Chad, aimed at a military intervention directed against the African continent, as well as the progressive and revolutionary forces.

In a release handed to the press, Abdraman, who represents a branch of the MPLT -- divided since August 1980 -- speaks of the political engagement of his party along side the socialists and communists. The Chadian political leader, who is a signatory of the Lagos accords, said he doesn't fear the assistance [words indistinct] the inter-African force in Chad because the French Socialist Party cannot deceive us.

MALI

TRAORE CRITICIZES ISRAELI ANNEXATION OF GOLAN

AB182102 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] President Gen Moussa Traore today reacted to Israel's decision to annex the Golan. In a message to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, the head of state expressed Mali's indignation and stressed that Israel's decision is not only a flagrant provocation but also another threat from Israeli authorities to world peace and security. Gen Moussa Traore reaffirmed Mali's firm and constant support to Syria in its struggle against Israel's expansionism.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI SAYS AFRICANS MUST FIGHT IMPERIALISM

AB181746 Lagos NAN in English 1700 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Kaduna, 18 Dec (NAN) -- President Shehu Shagari today in Kaduna said that all Africans had a duty to fight the evils of imperialism and neo-colonialism.

Speaking at the combined graduation ceremony of the 25th regular course of the army and the 27th course for naval and air force cadets at the Nigerian Defence Academy, President Shagari said that there were forces outside Africa which foment trouble in the continent with the intention to keeping Africa permanently divided.

He recalled the subversive activities of neo-colonialism in Angola, Namibia and South Africa and declared that Nigeria could not afford to lag behind in its ability to defend itself.

He reiterated his administration's commitment to effectively equip the armed forces.

He told the graduates that their commission was a sacred trust conferred upon them and charged them to do their duties well and to be loyal to the nation.

SENEGAL

PACT SIGNED; SENEGAMBIA CONFEDERATION FORMED

AB181025 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] In conformity with the desire of the Senegambian people, President Dawda Kairaba Jawara and President Abdou Diouf signed the pact instituting the Senegambia confederation today in Dakar. This is a highly responsible act of our two heads of state, who have listened to their people and who, during the swearing of their oaths, pledged to make every effort to consolidate the independence of their countries, strengthen national unity, and work for the rapprochement of peoples.

Today there are no more murmurs, no more regrets since Senegambia is born and our populations -- who are of the same soil and same family, who belong to the same ethnic group and speak the same language -- are happy because they have never been disappointed by their leaders. The promises made at Serecounda, Bricama, Bassan, Basse and Kaour have all been fulfilled. The women and children, old people and adults of Senegal and Gambia, who since the first hours of independence have persistently called for Senegambia, are on this solemn day enthusiastic and ready to serve the interests of Senegambia.

The way has certainly been long, but as it is said, small strokes fell great oaks. President Abdou Diouf, encouraged by militants of his party as responsible Senegalese concerned about their country's future, has taken up the challenge. And there is no doubt that with national cohesion, understanding of hearts and minds and the best wishes that the caliph of the Mourides made in Touba yesterday before the prime minister and a joint effort from us and our Gambian brothers and sisters, other challenges will be taken up by President Abdou Diouf and Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara.

With the confederation, Senegalese and Gambians, who have never lost hope, will seek further improvements. An economic and monetary union will be developed and the external policies of the two countries will be coordinated. The confederal president, who is President Abdou Diouf, will set up a confederal council of ministers since the two countries have decided to coordinate their activities in telecommunications, after the integration of the security and defense forces. This coordination also will cover other fields the two countries deem necessary. With the setting up of joint institutions, Senegambia will have a confederal assembly and a confederal court of justice.

These are Christmas and New Year gifts offered by Dawda Kairaba Jawara and Abdou Diouf to their peoples, to the Senegambian people who for many years have been waiting impatiently for this gift. With the blessing of God, Senegambia will succeed; so much the worse for the discontented and those thirsting for power!

Jawara Comments

AB182154 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Gambian President Dawda Jawara, who has just signed the Senegambian pact with his Senegalese counterpart Abdou Diouf, returned to Banjul this afternoon. The Gambian president was seen off by President Abdou Diouf and Prime Minister Habib Thiam who were both accompanied by the National Assembly speaker, Amadou Cisse Dia, and Cabinet members.

Answering Senegalese newsmen, the Gambian head of state said: I am happy -- and I hope President Abdou Diouf is too -- for the pact is important for the history of our two countries. It is important for Senegambians and for Africans at large because after their independence, African countries should exploit the advantages of their sovereignty by joining hands to consolidate African unity. Since the creation of the OAU, the unity of the continent is being proclaimed, but without any result. What we have just done with Senegal is a rare example of what should be African unity. This conviction has not remained mere words. It has been translated into reality with the confederation and our people will be able to benefit from it because their development and happiness lie in this Senegambian confederation.

Since our independence, we have been gradually consolidating our relations, which were already excellent. This is something very important for us. Yesterday, 17 December 1981, we worked under excellent conditions, in a warm and enthusiastic atmosphere to read every document. Within a short period of time, our two parliaments will ratify these documents and they then immediately will take effect. We will do everything possible to further consolidate our relations in every sector.

ANGOLA

LUANDA REPORTS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CUBA

AB181250 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] The third session of the joint Angolan-Cuban subcommission which was held in Luanda from 3 to 17 December to discuss problems relating to industry, agriculture, construction, fishing and education, yesterday ended its deliberations with the signing of a protocol of cooperation in the field of economy. The protocol was signed by the Angolan secretary of state for cooperation, Paulino Pinto Joao Neto, and Manol Torres, vice president of the State Committee for Economic Collaboration in Cuba.

DOS SANTOS RETURNS FROM LIBREVILLE SUMMIT

AB201248 Luanda ANGOP in Porguguese 1130 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Luanda, 20 Dec (ANGOP) -- The chairman of the MPLA-Workers Party, president of the People's Republic of Angola, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, returned to Luanda on Saturday night after a few hours visit to Gabon where he separately held talks with five of the heads of state who are in Libreville to participate in the 17th summit of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC].

Jose Eudardo dos Santos talked with Presidents Pinta da Costa of Sao Tome and Principe, Mobutu of Zaire, Sassou-Nguesso of Congo, Omar Bongo of Gabon and Goukouni Oueddei of Chad. The meetings took place behind closed doors.

The Angolan head of state also participated in the closing session of the UDEAC summit as an observer.

The UDEAC summit also adopted a resolution of support for the People's Republic of Angola, calling for the immediate withdrawal of South African troops from Angolan territory.

The summit, in which eight out of the 11 heads of member states of the UDEAC participated, also expressed support for the tireless struggle of the Angolan people under the leadership of President dos Santos. The resolution called on the international community to mobilize itself to put an end to the inhuman system of apartheid.

The 11 member states of the UDEAC also adopted a declaration (the Libreville declaration) which proposes a meeting to define the practical conditions for the creation of an African economic community, to be held in Libreville in February 1982.

According to the Libreville declaration, the above mentioned meeting should continue in the spirit of Monrovia and Lagos.

Comments on Namibia

EA201734 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos returned to Luanda last night after 11 hours of intense work in Libreville, Gabon. During his visit to Gabon, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos had contacts with some African heads of state which strengthened ties of cooperation with the countries attending the summit and confirmed the prestige enjoyed by Angola on the African continent.

After his meeting with Gen Mobuto Sese Seko of Zaire, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos met Zairean journalists who questioned him on issues concerning the PRA's [People's Republic of Angola] internal situation and its international policy.

[Question -- announcer read] Can you give us an assessment of the situation in your country?

[Answer -- announcer read] At this moment you know that Angola is a victim of regular, ongoing attacks by South Africa. This is because the Namibian freedom fighters organize their liberation struggle mainly in Angola. They are organizing the logistical support for their liberation war inside Namibia.

[Question] Are negotiations on Namibia being held in accordance with the timetable?

[Answer] We have received a document from the so-called contact group with proposals on constitutional principles. SWAPO made its stand on the known proposals with the support of the frontline countries and we received a new document yesterday. We have not yet studied it. We hope that in the next few days Angola will make its stand known.

[Question] An action launched by the racists has reportedly destroyed the SWAPO general staff headquarters. Can you tell us something about it?

[Answer] (?Up to now) we have no reports whatever about this. This is a question which concerns the Namibian people and their vanguard organization. The SWAPO leadership itself can give information on the action.

[Question] You said you are interested in holding talks with the United States. Are your proposed talks to settle the Namibian question?

[Answer] First, it will be to solve bilateral issues. Obviously, our talks might positively influence the current negotiations for the settlement of the Namibian problem.

[Question] Do you think the United States is now doing its best to (?use your influence).

[Answer] The negotiations are long. They are underway. Efforts must be redoubled to bring about Namibia's independence quickly. (?SWAPO) has been fighting for 14 years.

[Question] Do you think that Zaire can perform any role in the U.S.-Angola rapprochement?

[Answer] Zaire is an African country. It is a fraternal country. Obviously, like other OAU countries, Zaire can make the United States (?understand) that its position toward Angola lacks realism and is not correct. Angola is an independent country recognized by the OAU and it is a member of the United Nations. Angola also plays a very important role in the settlement of the Namibian problem, which would guarantee greater stability in southern Africa.

RESTRICTIONS ON GASOLINE STATIONS TO BE LIFTED

EA191540 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The restrictive measures regarding the supply of fuel to vehicles at gas stations throughout the country will end on the 21st of this month. This is contained in a decree signed by the minister of petroleum, Pedro van Dunen Loi.

The decree states, however, that gas stations will remain closed throughout the country on Sundays and public holidays. It will be recalled that the restrictive measures on the supply of fuel were decreed following the attack by mercenaries on the Petrangol refinery. The attack was organized by South Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE

ZIMBABWE'S MUGABE ARRIVED IN MAPUTO 19 DEC

EA191506 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Robert Mugabe, president of ZANU-PF and prime minister of Zimbabwe, arrived in Maputo late this morning.

The Zimbabwean leader was met at Maputo International Airport by President Samora Machel, senior Mozambique party and government officials and residents of the capital. This is Mugabe's first official friendly visit to Mozambique as prime minister.

Talks between the two leaders are expected to begin this afternoon. The talks are fundamentally important to the broadening of the friendly relations of cooperation between the two parties and two peoples.

Mugabe will stay in Mozambique for about 5 days. During his visit, he is expected to tour some of our provinces. We will be giving you more details in further newscasts.

Machel-Mugabe Talks

EA201027 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Robert Mugabe's visit to (?our country) as prime minister of Zimbabwe conforms with the expectations of the Mozambique people [words indistinct] the process of the Zimbabwean liberation struggle. This was stated by President Samora Machel at the opening of official talks between Mozambique and Zimbabwe in Maputo this afternoon.

In his speech, President Samora Machel also referred [words indistinct] with the Zimbabwean people as indestructible inasmuch as (it was) forged in the common [words indistinct] sacrifice and strategy. He also spoke of cooperation between the two countries [words indistinct] against backwardness.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said he returns to a country of revolutionary and (?friendly) people. The Zimbabwean leader said he comes with a message of thanks from his people for the support rendered by Mozambique in the struggle for liberation in Zimbabwe.

The two leaders stressed in their speeches the identical stance of their countries on international issues.

Dinner Speeches

LD201634 Maputo Domestic Services in Portuguese 1030 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Excerpts] A mass meeting chaired by ZANU-PF President and Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe is now underway in Maputo.

At a ceremony this morning presided over by President Samora Machel at Ponta Vermelha Palace, the Zimbabwean leader had the title of honorary citizen of the People's Republic of Mozambique conferred on him by the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly. During the ceremony, Marcelino dos Santos, secretary of the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly, read the resolution in which the distinguished guest is described as the (?builder) of Zimbabwean national unity from the Zambezi to the Limpopo and a courageous militant who defined the armed struggle as the only road to the country's liberation.

The resolution also says that during the years he lived in our country, Robert Mugabe, as a result of his unwavering political efforts to build friendship between the Mozambique and Zimbabwean peoples, earned the deep esteem of the nation of Mozambique which regards him as a son of our people's republic.

Last night, President Samora Machel hosted a state banquet in honor of Prime Minister Mugabe. After welcoming the ZANU-PF president to the land which had sheltered him and helped make him into a patriotic Zimbabwean, the Mozambique head of state recalled that in the past warplanes, armored cars and racist troops came from Salisbury to sow death and terror in Mozambique. Today, he said, the president of the ZANU-PF comes from the same city as a symbol of peace between our peoples. The Mozambique leader said the most important factor in the change is that the Zimbabwean people took up arms to liberate their fatherland.

President Samora Machel also referred to international issues, particularly imperialism's intensification of the arms race. He also stressed cooperation between Mozambique and Zimbabwe in the framework of the southern African development coordination conference.

In reply, the Zimbabwean prime minister said his visit is a return home to where the armed struggle was kept alive, where the Zimbabwean struggle received the correct guidance and a rich meaning. The ZANU-PF president said: I want to say that the mission has been successfully accomplished. Comrade President, the people of Zimbabwe are now free and independent. Robert Mugabe said he is carrying a brief message from the Zimbabwean people, saying they have crushed the enemy and attained independence.

SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA SUPPLIES ENRICHED URANIUM TO FRANCE

LD181842 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] South Africa has supplied enriched uranium to France where it will be turned into fuel which will be used in the first French-built nuclear power station in South Africa. French officials in Paris say the fuel will be used to start up the first South Africa nuclear power station at Koeberg near Cape Town in 12 months. They say the plant has undergone successful circuit pressure tests and that it should go into industrial production in December 1982.

The firm Framatome which heads the French consortium building the power station says it is none of their concern how South Africa obtained the uranium, but an official said the French Government had given Framatome permission to process it, which meant that the uranium had been bought through a regular trading company and was covered by the International Atomic Agency.

1,479 SWAPO INSURGENTS KILLED IN 11 MONTHS

LD181110 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] The security forces in South-West Africa/Namibia shot and killed 1,479 SWAPO insurgents in the first 11 months of this year. Defense Force headquarters say this does not include the SWAPO terrorists killed in Operation Protea in August when the security forces raided SWAPO bases in southern Angola. A Defense Force office said the figure included only those who had been positively identified and counted. Last year the security forces killed 1,467 SWAPO insurgents.

This year the security forces lost 56 men while 92 civilians were killed, 62 of them in landmine explosions.